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PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
OF CANADA, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
AT
ESPECIAL. COMMUNICATIONS

HELD AT

*St. Thomas, 8th August, A. L. 5898, Picton,
11th August, A. L. 5898, Marmora,
13th June A. L. 5899, and Max-
ville, 14th June A. L. 5899.*

ALSO AT THE

FORTY - FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

HELD IN THE CITY OF OTTAWA,

ON THE

19th and 20th July A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.



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GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the City of St. Thomas, on Monday, 8th August, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.....	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Sam'l Dubber	D. D. G. M., London District.
R. W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal	D. D. G. M., Niagara District.
R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. L. Slater	as Grand Junior Warden.
W. Bro. Joseph Potts.....	as Grand Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray.....	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. Robert McKay.....	as Grand Registrar.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason.....	Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. F. Guest, M. D.	as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. D. McColl.....	as Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. C. W. Glasgow	as Grand Supt. of Works.
V. W. Bro. John Midgley	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. L. D. Mells	as Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. Charles Roe	as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. E. T. Essery.....	as Grand Organist.
W. Bro. C. Scrace, Sr.....	as Asst. Grand Organist.
W. Bro. M. Campbell	as Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. W. E. Idsardi.....	} as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. H. McKillop	
W. Bro. G. A. Marlatt, M. D....	
W. Bro. J. Ball	
W. Bro. F. R. Else	
W. Bro. C. Scrace, Jr.	
W. Bro. Geo. Youell.....	
W. Bro. J. A. Sherman	
W. Bro. A. C. McIntyre	
W. Bro. J. S. Frazer.....	
W. Bro. D. Ferguson	
Bro. George Cochrane.....	as Grand Tyler.

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren nailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new City Buildings.

The brethren actng as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of V. W. Bro. John Midgley, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the Eighth Day of August, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, A. L. Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, in the Sixty-Second year of the reign of Our Gracious Sovereign.

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

The EARL OF ABERDEEN, being Governor-General of Canada.

The Hon. SIR OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Hon. ARTHUR STURGIS HARDY, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.

FREDERICK W. WRIGHT, being Mayor of the City of St. Thomas.

M. W. Bro. ELIAS TALBOT MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. and A. M., in the Province of Ontario.

R. W. Bro. SAMUEL DUBBER, D. D. G. M. of the Third Masonic District.

This Corner Stone

OF THE ST. THOMAS CITY HALL

was laid by M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and of citizens of St. Thomas and County of Elgin.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION, ST THOMAS, 5899.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Subsequently a complimentary banquet was tendered to the M. W. the Grand Master, officers and members of the Grand Lodge at the Grand Central Hotel.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held at the Town of Picton, on Thursday, 11th August, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.....	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. H. G. Stafford, D.D. G.M., as	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. T. H. Thornton	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon.....	Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Rev. H. S. Matthews.....	Grand Chaplain.
R. W. Bro. Rev. W. T. Wilkins.....	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. Wm. Smeaton	Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. A. G. McDonald.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. W. T. Shaw	Grand Supt. of Works.
W. Bro. G. L. Hough.....	Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. W. H. Smith	Asst. Grand Secretary.
V. W. Bro. E. W. Case.....	Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. J. H. Murney	Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. A. C. Bowerman	Grand Organist.
W. Bro. J. G. Johnston.....	Asst. Grand Organist
W. Bro. B. H. Young....	Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. W. R. Leavens.....	} as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. Jas. H. Colden.,	
W. Bro. W. W. Fitzgerald	
W. Bro. R. A. Williamson	
W. Bro. F. A. Burlingham.....	
W. Bro. E. A. Morden.....	
W. Bro. C. C. Spencer	
W. Bro. W. Moore.....	
W. Bro. Hugh McCullough.....	}
W. Bro. G. N. Rose	
V. W. Bro. John Newton	} as Grand Tyler.
W. Bro. F. E. O'Flynn	

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 11 o'clock a.m., in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the (First) Methodist Church.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was

called off, and a procession formed under the direction of W. Bro. G. L. Hough, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

The Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the Eleventh Day of August, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, A. L. Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, the Sixty-first year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign,

Victoria.

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies in Asia, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.,

His Excellency the Right Honorable JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON GORDON, Earl of Aberdeen.
Being Governor-General of Canada.

The Honorable SIR OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

The Honorable SIR WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Honorable ARTHUR STURGIS HARDY, being Premier of the Province of Ontario

The Reverend A. CARMAN, D. D., being President of the General Conference.

The Reverend BRO. T. W. JOLLIFFE, being President of the Bay of Quinte Conference.

The Reverend J. W. JOLLIFFE, B. C. L., being Pastor of the First Methodist Church at Picton.

W. C. KILLIP, being Warden of the County of Prince Edward.
JAMES A. CLAPP, being Mayor of the Town of Picton.

The following being the Trustee Board of the First Methodist Church at Picton:

Rev. W. J. Jolliffe, B. C. L.....	Chairman.
C. S. Wilson.....	Treasurer.
W. H. R. Allison.....	Secretary.
A. D. Platt....	Assistant Secretary.
W. J. Porte,	H. W. Branscombe,
S. M. Conger,	G. W. McMullen,
J. N. Wait,	John Laird,
W. H. Williamson,	G. E. Vandusen,
D. A. Thompson,	M. R. German.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

Most Worshipful Brother E. T. MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, in the Province of Ontario.

Right Worshipful Brother H. G. STAFFORD, District Deputy Grand Master of the Prince Edward Thirteenth Masonic District.

This Corner Stone,

OF THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH,

at Picton was laid by M. W. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers and by Prince Edward Lodge No. 18, G. R. C., of which W. Bro. R. H. Hubbs is W.M., and in the presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of the town of Picton and surrounding localities.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

A handsome silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master, by the Rev. J. W. Jolliffe, B. C. L., Pastor of the church, on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

ATTEST:



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Village of Marmora, on Tuesday, 13th day of June, A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.

PRESENT:

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.....	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. H. G. Stafford, D. D. G. M., as	Deputy Grand Master.
V. W. Bro. Alex. Gibson.....	as Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Henry Rush	Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro. the Rev. W. T. Wilkins....	as Grand Chaplain.
W. Bro. H. S. Ferguson	as Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason.....	Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. G. B. Bleecker.....	as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. T. Mawson	as Grand Junior Deacon.
Bro. Sir Mackenzie Bowell	as Grand Supt. of Works.
W. Bro. R. B. Proutt.....	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. J. R. Orr	as Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. B. Lott.....	as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. A. H. Watson.....	as Grand Organist.
W. Bro. W. C. Boardman.....	as Asst. Grand Organist.
W. Bro. G. Bedford	as Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. B. C. Becker.....	} as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. J. Dorricott	
W. Bro. A. K. McLeod ..	
Bro. A. Carscallen, M. P.....	
W. Bro. John McWilliams.....	
W. Bro. S. Simmons	
W. Bro. T. H. Cummings ..	} as Grand Tyler.
Bro. A. Kennedy	

Together with Masers, Past Masters and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

The constitutional number of lodges being represented, Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 11 o'clock forenoon, in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Presbyterian Church in Marmora.

The Reeve of the township of Marmora and members of the Township Council were announced and introduced and the Reeve read the following

ADDRESS.

To E. T. Malone, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR,—

It is with feelings of the sincerest pleasure and pride that I, as Reeve of the Townships of Marmora and Lake, on behalf of the Council and citizens, extend to you now a most hearty welcome to the village of Marmora.

Our village until a few years ago was the center of one of the most extensive lumbering districts in the Province of Ontario. Now, however, the supply of timber is almost exhausted. At present the mining industry is flourishing, the iron mines are beginning to work in consequence of the boom in the iron trade; and at least two of our gold mining companies are working day and night turning out regularly fine bricks of the precious metal. I hope you will have the privilege of inspecting them while here.

Our village may seem small to you coming from the city of Toronto; but when I mention a small bit of Masonic history you will see that when Marmora village was founded Toronto was not very extensive. At the time Morgan was creating some excitement, I cannot tell the exact date, some seventy-five or eighty years ago, there was a meeting of the craft called at New York for the purpose of taking his case in consideration. A delegate attended that meeting from Marmora. He recommended that Morgan be kept on a farm in the back woods of Canada—the farm I now occupy—not a very hard sentence if it had been carried out.

As a member of the craft myself, it gives me great pleasure to have you with us to-day to assist in laying the cornerstone of this nice little church, and if at some future time you would like to spend a few weeks on our magnificent rivers and lakes, you may depend on a warm reception from the citizens of Marmora.

WILLIAM HILTON, Reeve.

WILLIAM BONTER,

JAS. H. WARREN.

An address was also presented to the M. W. the Grand Master by the W. M. and officers of Marmora Lodge, No. 222.

To both addresses the M. W. the Grand Master made suitable responses.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, Grand Lodge was called off and a procession formed under the direction of W. Bro. R. B. Proutt, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

R. W. Bro. the Rev. W. T. Wilkins, acting Grand Chaplain, then asked a blessing, and Bro. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, acting Grand Superintendent of Works, read the following scroll:

**In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of
the Universe,**

On the Thirteenth Day of June, A.D. 1899, A.L. 5899, the Sixty-
Second year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and
Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia,
Dominion of Canada, etc.

His Excellency the Right Honorable SIR GILBERT JOHN
ELLIOTT MURRAY-KYNNYMOND, Earl of Minto,
etc., being Governor-General of Canada.

The Honorable SIR OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Gov-
ernor of the Province of Ontario.

The Right Honorable SIR WILFRID LAURIER, being Pre-
mier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Honorable ARTHUR S. HARDY, being Premier of the
Province of Ontario.

A. W. CARSCALLEN, M. P., and W. J. ALLEN, M. P. P.,
being Representatives for North Hastings.

Reverend JOHN C. INKSTER, B. A., being Pastor in charge.
Reverend ROBERT TORRANCE, D. D., being Moderator of
the General Assembly.

ROBERT MITCHELL, JAMES PARKER, B. A., GEORGE
MACQUEEN, THOMAS THOMPSON.
Building Committee.

JAMES ENGLISH, being Warden of the County of Hastings.
WILLIAM HILTON, being Reeve of Municipality of Marmora
and Lake.

M. W. BRO. E. T. MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand
Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Ontario.

R. W. BRO. H. G. STAFFORD, D. D. G. M. of the Thirteenth
Masonic District.

This Corner Stone,

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MARMORA.

was laid by M. W. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, assisted by
the Grand Officers, and in presence of a large concourse of
brethren and citizens of the County of Hastings.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll
in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing
the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

A handsome silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master, by the Rev. John G. Inkster, B. A., Pastor of the church.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it :

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF CANADA.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Village of Marville, 14th day of June, A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro. George Rook.....	as Grand Master.
W. Bro. John Ridley.....	as Deputy Grand Master.
W. Bro. W. A. Chamberlain.....	as Grand Senior Warden.
Bro. M. L. Stewart.....	as Grand Junior Warden.
Bro. A. D. McIntyre	as Grand Chaplain.
Bro. T. W. Munroe.....	as Grand Treasurer.
Bro. E. J. McEwen.....	as Grand Registrar.
W. Bro. A. F. Robertson.....	as Grand Secretary.
Bro. C. H. Wood	as Grand Senior Deacon.
Bro. J. Hoople	as Grand Supt. of Works.
V. W. Bro. S. Henry	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
Bro. Wm. Hill	as Grand Pursuivant.
V. W. Bro. John Smith.....	} as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. James Faulkner.....	
W. Bro. M. D. Carther	
W. Bro. G. W. Shepherd	
W. Bro. Wm. Gibbons.....	
W. Bro. — Dunkin	} as Grand Tyler.
Bro. A. A. Sproule.....	

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in due form at 10:15 o'clock a.m., in the Masonic Hall, by the acting Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new Presbyterian Church.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of V. W. Bro. S. Henry, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the Fourteenth Day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-nine, the Sixty-second year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies of Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

THE EARL OF MINTO, being Governor-General of Canada.

Sir OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

HON. A. S. HARDY, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.

R. R. McLENNAN, M.P., being member for the County.

Reverend ROBERT TORRANCE, Moderator of the General Assembly.

D. T. CAMERON, being Reeve.

M. W. Bro. E. T. MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Ontario.

GEO. ROOK, D. D. G. M. of the Fifteenth Masonic District.

This Corner Stone,

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MAXVILLE.

was laid by R. W. Bro. Geo. Rook, D. D. G. M., assisted by the Grand Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of Maxville and vicinity.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing Canadian coins and certain newspapers and records.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The R. W. the acting Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then re-formed, the brethren re-

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION, MAXVILLE, 5899. 15

turned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

At the Forty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, held in the City of Ottawa, commencing on Wednesday, the 19th day of July, A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.

PRESENT :

THE GRAND MASTER,

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone on the Throne.

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.

R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Henry Rush	Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro. the Rev. D. F. Bogert	as Grand Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Grand Secretary.
V. W. Bro. C. J. Hohl	Grand Senior Deacon.
V. W. Bro. W. Borthwick	Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. James Parrington	as Grand Supt. of Works.
W. Bro. J. A. Devitt	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. J. S. Tomlinson	Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. James Elliott	as Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. E. Findlay	as Grand Sword Bearer.
V. W. Bro. Alex. Gibson	Grand Pursuivant.
V. W. Bro. John D. Dewar	
V. W. Bro. Alex. Wyness	
V. W. Bro. F. A. Latshaw	
V. W. Bro. John Smith	
V. W. Bro. W. E. Foote	
V. W. Bro. S. Beaumont	as
W. Bro. T. M. Davis	as
W. Bro. S. A. Luke	as
W. Bro. W. Northwood	as
W. Bro. W. H. Baldwin	as
W. Bro. L. B. Scott	as
W. Bro. M. Birkett	as
V. W. Bro. A. Shaw	as Grand Standard Bearer.
Bro. John Sweetman	Grand Tyler

THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, M. D.....	Erie	District No. 1
R. W. Bro. Arch'd Weir.....	St. Clair	" 2
R. W. Bro. Sam'l Dubber.....	London	" 3
R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney.....	South Huron	" 4
R. W. Bro. Wm. Irwin.....	North Huron	" 5
R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler.....	Wilson	" 6
R. W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart.....	Wellington	" 7
R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed.....	Hamilton	" 8
R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan.....	Georgian	" 9
R. W. Bro. John A. Hoshal.....	Niagara	" 10
R. W. Bro. Curran McK. Morrison....	Toronto West	" 11
R. W. Bro. James Glauville.....	Toronto East	" 11a
R. W. Bro. James Evans.....	Ontario	" 12
R. W. Bro. H. G. Stafford.....	Prince Edward	" 13
R. W. Bro. L. S. Lewis.....	Frontenac	" 14
R. W. Bro. George Rook.....	St. Lawrence	" 15
R. W. Bro. George S. May.....	Ottawa	" 16
R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall.....	Algoma	" 17
R. W. Bro. Richard Mills.....	Nipissing	" 18

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

FROM GRAND LODGE OF

M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson.....	England.
R. W. Bro. Robt. McKnight.....	Prince Edward Island.
R. W. Bro. D. D. Campbell.....	New South Wales.
R. W. Bro. L. Secord, M. D.....	New Zealand.
R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt.....	South Australia.
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson.....	Victoria.
R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed.....	Alabama.
R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler.....	Arkansas.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.....	Connecticut.
M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, Q. C....	District of Columbia.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason.....	Florida.
M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C.....	Georgia.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.....	Indiana.
R. W. Bro. W. G. Reid.....	Kansas.
R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt.....	Louisiana.
R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite.....	Maine.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.....	Michigan.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.....	Minnesota.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.....	Missouri.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf.....	Nebraska.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.....	New Jersey.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea.....	New Mexico.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray.....	New York.
R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar.....	North Dakota.
R. W. Bro. David Taylor.....	Oregon.
M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.....	South Dakota.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.....	Texas.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.....	Utah.
R. W. Bro. Dewitt H. Martyn, M. D....	Vermont.
R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Q. C.....	West Virginia.
R. W. Bro. Henry Rush.....	Wisconsin.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.....	Brazil.
M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C.....	Peru.
R. W. Bro. John Walsh.....	U. States of Columbia.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.—M. W. Bros. A. A. Stevenson, J. K. Kerr, Q. C., Hugh Murray, Hy. Robertson, Q. C., R. T. Walkem, Q. C., J. Ross Robertson, W. R. White, Q. C., and Wm. Gibson.

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.—John Menish, W. J. Simpson, A. R. Hargraft, E. Abbott Johnston, Aubrey White, G. J. Bennett, Wm. Roaf, R. L. Gunn, O. Bascom, J. Burch, T. McCallum, John Malloy, W. G. Reid, R. W. Stephen, J. B. Nixon, R. McKnight, W. T. Toner, D. H. Martyn, D. F. Macwatt, R. E. Wood, J. F. Graham, J. G. Liddell, D. Barr, Henry Pringle, J. H. Burritt, G. E. Josephs, G. A. Aylesworth, R. W. Longmore, T. R. Atkinson, Wm. Rea, E. B. Butterworth, David Taylor, A. E. Cooper, John Sinclair, P. W. D. Brodrick, John McLaren, D. D. Campbell, R. Mahoney, A. G. Campbell, W. B. Sanders, Hugh Hyndman, J. E. Harding, J. A. Macfadden, J. H. Knifton, W. C. Harris, Wm. Kennedy Isaac Huber, I. P. Willson, James Walmsley, W. I. Bradley and W. H. Burgess.

PAST GRAND SENIOR WARDENS.—James Sutherland, G. R. Vanzant, Jas. McLauchlan, L. Secord, Benjamin Allen and Allan McLean.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR WARDENS.—A. B. Greer, Le F. A. Maingy, Fred. Cook and John S. Dewar.

PAST GRAND CHAPLAIN.—Rev. D. F. Bogert.

PAST GRAND SENIOR DEACON.—Thomas Beattie.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR DEACONS.—R. W. Kenning, J. C. Kearns and C. A. Kingston.

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF WORKS.—Robert Buck and C. F. Mansell.

PAST GRAND DIRECTORS OF CEREMONIES.—H. P. Macdonell and Hugh Hyndman, Jr.

PAST ASSISTANT GRAND ORGANIST. Geo. Gott.

PAST GRAND PURSUIVANT.—John Newton and J. J. Smythe.

PAST GRAND STEWARDS.—A. Shaw, S. Beaumont, Peter Toll, Wm. McGowan, James McNeil, E. J. Voss, John Hall, John Irwin and Sam'l Henry.

PAST GRAND STANDARD BEARER.—W. J. McAllister.

Before the opening of Grand Lodge, His Worship Mayor Payment and members of the City Council were announced, introduced and read the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

OTTAWA, 19th July, 1899.

To the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada:

Grand Master and Gentlemen—

As Mayor of Ottawa, the pleasing duty devolves upon me of bidding you welcome to our city. Not only is it a duty, but I esteem it also, gentlemen, as a very high privilege, and on behalf of our citizens can confidently assure you of a hearty welcome, and of the pleasure which it will afford them to unite in making your visit a pleasant one, and, let me hope, a profitable one as well.

It is unnecessary for me to say much in the way of commendation of your Order. Its principles are well known and speak for themselves. Is it truth we are in search of? If so, we find it there. Is it charity? It is there also, in the widest and most extended sense. Is it brotherly love? We find it there. Is it mutual help and aid in times of trial or distress? Where shall we find it carried out more fully than in the daily practice of the Order. In a word, we recognize that both its principles and practice are founded on and exemplified by the highest moral and social virtues, carried on and illustrated in the daily life and conduct of your members.

Founded back in the Middle ages, you can claim for your Order an antiquity second to none. In its extent and ramifications, it is world wide, and in your membership you can justly claim a large representation of the noblest and best in every rank in life of the human race.

With such credentials as these—your principles, your antiquity, your universality, and your high personal individuality your welcome everywhere can never fail in being a hearty one.

Gentlemen, we are proud to have you here. Amongst the many gatherings with which we have been favored in the past, this one of yours occupies a foremost place. We welcome you to our fair city, to our homes and to our hearts, and in as far as lies in our power, no effort shall be spared to make your visit an agreeable one. While pleasant, we trust that it may also prove profitable, and that the business now to be transacted may prove of lasting benefit to your Order. We trust also that your individual and personal enjoyment may be such that you will thereby be induced, in the not distant future to return again, and that in the interim all your memories of Ottawa and its citizens will be of days happily spent in healthful enjoyment and duties well and faithfully performed.

F. PAYMENT.

Mayor of Ottawa.

The M. W. the Grand Master, having made a suitable response, and a constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 12 o'clock noon, and the Grand Chaplain implored a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U. upon the proceedings.

A deputation of Masters from the Ottawa lodges were announced, introduced and presented to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME :

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in Ontario.

To-day, brethren, you convene in the Capital of Canada in the Forty-fourth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

The brethren of Ottawa extend to you all hearty welcome and fraternal greeting, and congratulate you upon the general prosperity of the craft within the jurisdiction.

Upon your late visit, Most Worshipful Sir, we had the pleasure of listening to your eloquent words, which made a deep impression upon those who heard them. We are gratified that your first presidency over Grand Lodge occurs in Ottawa. We have every confidence that, like your predecessors, you will rule wisely and well, and that, as did they, you will enjoy the esteem and affection of the members of the honorable and noble fraternity of which you are now the respected Grand Master.

We congratulate the members of Grand Lodge upon the fact that their visit is paid when the Federal Parliament is in session. In addition to renewing old friendships, you will have the opportunity of meeting eminent Craftsmen from other jurisdictions and of making lasting friendships which, we trust, will be mutually profitable.

The citizens of Ottawa, we are assured, will afford to the members of Grand Lodge every means of seeing the many interesting places within and adjacent to our rapidly growing city.

We trust and believe, brethren, that your gathering will not only be pleasant and agreeable to you, but also in the highest degree promotive of the best interests and rapid advancement of the institution we all love so much.

May you be guided by the Great Architect of the Universe to devise plans for our future that, building on them wisely, we may more fully than in the past exemplify the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love.

Signed on behalf of the brethren of Ottawa.

GEO. S. MAY, D. D. G. M., Ottawa District, No. 16.

JAS. PARRINGTON, W. M., Dalhousie, No. 52.

J. ALEX. ARMSTRONG, W. M., Doric, No. 58.

LOCKBURN B. SCOTT, W. M., Civil Service, No. 148.

W. J. SYKES, W. M., The Builders, No. 177.

J. A. DEVITT, W. M., Fidelity, No. 231.

JAS. ELLIOTT, W. M., Chaudiere, No. 264.

E. J. L. GALLAHER, W. M., Prince of Wales, No. 371.

Ottawa, 19th July, 1899.

The M. W. the Grand Master expressed himself as being highly gratified with the reception given to him and to the Grand Lodge by the officers and members of the Ottawa lodges.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

M. W. Bros. Benjamin Tooke, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec; T. B. Flint, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; J. V. Ellis, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge

of New Brunswick; D. C. Fraser, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and the Hon. John Yeo, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and V. W. Bros. Baird, P. G. S. B. of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick; W. H. Whyte, P. D. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and A. Howard, P. D. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, were announced, introduced and welcomed with grand honors.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS OF REGRET.

Letters and telegrams expressing regret at being unable to attend the annual communication were read from M. W. Bros. Kivas Tully and the Hon. J. M. Gibson, of the Grand Lodge of Canada; W. D. Pownell, G. M., and W. A. Sutherland, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New York; and from W. Bro. E. M. L. Ehlers, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York.

GREETINGS FROM ST. GEORGE'S LODGE, NO. 10, Q. R.

The following telegram was received and read:

Montreal, Que., July 18, 1899.

St. George's Lodge, No. 10, meeting to-night, extend fraternal greeting to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and trust your good self and our Most Worshipful Brother, William Gibson, may long be spared to attend similar communications.

J. D. HUDSON, Master.

The M. W. the Grand Master granted permission for the admission of all Master Masons in good standing as visitors.

The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of business.

The Grand Secretary commenced reading the minutes of proceedings at the last annual communication, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved, That the minutes of proceedings of Grand Lodge at the Forty-third Annual Communication, held in the City of Toronto, on the 20th and 21st days of July, A. D. 1898, having been printed, and copies thereof forwarded to subordinate lodges, the same be considered as read, and be now confirmed, and that the minutes of the several Special Communications of Grand Lodge, entered by the Grand Secretary in the Minute Book, be taken as read, and are hereby confirmed.

COMMITTEE OF CREDENTIALS.

R. W. Bros. Wm. Roaf and P. W. D. Brodrick, and W. Bros. L. B. Scott and J. A. Devitt, the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies from lodges, reported the following as being present:

- No. 2. Niagara, Niagara.*
W. Bro. W. E. Lyall, W. M.
- No. 3. The Ancient St. John's, Kingston.*
W. Bro. W. B. Dalton, W. M.
- No. 5. Sussex, Brockville.*
W. Bro. J. C. Stag, W. M.; R. W. Bros. John Menish and W. J. Simpson, P. M's.
- No. 6. The Barton, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. J. P. Steedman, W. M.; M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson and R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, P. M's.
- No. 7. Union, Grimsby.*
W. Bros. A. C. Cole, W. M.; R. Lipsit, P. M.
- No. 10. Norfolk, Simcoe.*
W. Bro. J. G. Bottomley, W. M.; R. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson, P. M.
- No. 11. Moira, Belleville.*
W. Bro. W. S. Morden, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Rev. D. F. Bogert; V. W. Bro. John Newton; W. Bros. W. Latimer and Wm. Docter, P. M's.
- No. 14. True Britons, Perth.*
W. Bro. D. G. MacMartin, W. M.; Bros. J. M. Balderson, S. W.; R. E. Hicks, J. W.
- No. 16. St. Andrew's, Toronto.*
R. W. Bro. James Glanville and W. Bro. J. E. Hansford, P. M's.
- No. 17. St. John's, Cobourg.*
V. W. Bro. Robt. Buck, P. M. and Proxy; R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, P. M.
- No. 18. Prince Edward, Picton.*
W. Bros. Delos Spafford, W. M.; J. H. Colden, P. M.
- No. 20. St. John's, London.*
W. Bro. J. S. Shaw, P. M.; R. W. Bro. A. B. Greer, P. M.
- No. 21a. St. John's, Vankleek Hill.*
W. Bro. A. F. Robertson, W. M.; Bro. H. C. Jones, S. W.; R. W. Bro. E. A. Johnston and W. Bro. G. A. Fitzpatrick, P. M's.
- No. 22. King Solomon's, Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. A. Lyon, P. M. and Proxy; M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, P. M.
- No. 23. Richmond, Richmond Hill.*
W. Bros. E. A. Coombs, W. M.; H. A. Nicholls, P. M.

- No. 24. St. Francis, Smith's Falls.*
W. Bros. R. Craig, W. M.; W. Hyndman and A. F. Foster, P. M's.
- No. 25. Ionic, Toronto.*
Bro. A. P. Burritt, J. W.; M. W. Bros. J. K. Kerr and W. R. White; R. W. Bros. Aubrey White, G. J. Bennett, C. W. Postlethwaite and Wm. Roaf; W. Bros. E. B. Brown, W. Barwick, H. H. Williams and W. J. Eakins, P.M's.
- No. 26. Ontario, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. the Rev. G. H. Broughall, W. M.; R. W. Bro. James Evans, P. M.
- No. 27. Strict Observance, Hamilton.*
Bro. W. E. La Chance, J. W.; R. W. Bros. J. J. Mason and R. L. Gunn; W. Bro. T. M. Davis, P.M's.
- No. 28. Mount Zion, Kemptville.*
R. W. Bro. O. Bascom, P. M.
- No. 29. United, Brighton.*
W. Bros. B. C. H. Becker, W. M.; A. K. McLeod, P. M.
- No. 30. Composite, Whitby.*
W. Bro. John Burns, W. M.
- No. 31. Jerusalem, Bowmanville.*
W. Bro. D. B. Simpson, W. M.
- No. 32. Amity, Dunnville.*
W. Bro. G. D. Robertson, W. M.
- No. 33. Maitland, Goderich.*
W. Bros. Geo. Porter, W. M.; Bro. W. D. Tye, S. W.; Rev. Bro. J. Beck, P. M.
- No. 34. Thistle, Amersburg.*
V. W. Bro. G. W. Gott, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 35. St. John's, Cayuga.*
R. W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 37. King Hiram, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. C. A. Choate, W. M.
- No. 38. Trent, Trenton.*
W. Bros. J. D. Rowe, W. M.; John Coleman, P. M.
- No. 39. Mount Zion, Brooklyn.*
W. Bro. Wm. Smith, W. M.
- No. 40. St. John's, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. P. A. Sommerville, W.M.; Bro. J. T. Crawford, S. W.; R. W. Bros. Thos. McCallum, John Malloy and G. Reid; V. W. Bro. W. J. McAllister and W. Bros. Wm. Birrell and J. E. Riddell, P. M's.
- No. 41. St. George's, Kingsville.*
W. Bro. C. Koellin, W. M.
- No. 42. St. George's, London.*
W. Bros. M. W. Althouse, W. M.; Wm. Hayman and John Blanch, P.M's.

- No. 43. *King Solomon's, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. A. McGachie, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 44. *St. Thomas, St. Thomas.*
R. W. Bro. S. Dubber, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 46. *Wellington, Chatham.*
Bro. J. S. Turner, S. W.
- No. 47. *Great Western, Windsor.*
W. Bro. D. L. Carley, W. M.; Bros. G. E. White, S. W.;
S. Buchanan, J. W.
- No. 48. *Madoc, Madoc.*
W. Bro. C. H. Tumuelty, W. M.
- No. 50. *Consecon, Consecon.*
W. Bro. D. H. Rowe, W. M.
- No. 52. *Dalhousie, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. James Parrington, W. M.; Bros. S. C. Thompson, S. W.; W. H. Sproule, J. W.; R. W. Bro. G. S. May
and W. Bros. W. G. S. Reynolds, Miles Birkett, C. S.
Scott, S. Maynard Rogers, J. H. Salmon and Rev. W. L.
Scott, P. Ms.
- No. 54. *Vaughan, Maple.*
Bro. J. A. McDonald, S. W.
- No. 55. *Merrickville, Merrickville.*
Bro. B. Mosher, J. W.; W. Bros. C. H. Tate, R. W.
Watchorn and G. B. Magee, P. M's.
- No. 56. *Victoria, Sarnia.*
R. W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Proxy.
- No. 57. *Harmony, Binbrook.*
R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, Proxy.
- No. 58. *Doric, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. J. A. Armstrong, W. M.; Bro. John Storr, J. W.;
R. W. Bro. R. W. Stephen; V. W. Bro. J. J. Smythe and
W. Bros. John Robertson, S. A. Luke, C. A. Abbott, W.
H. Baldwin, A. Pratt, W. H. Martin, Wm. Smith and W.
J. Kidd, P. Ms.
- No. 61. *Acacia, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. R. V. Mathews, P. M. and Proxy; M. W. Bro.
Hugh Murray and W. Bros. J. D. Clarke, H. S. Wallace,
and John Nicholl, P. Ms.
- No. 63. *St. John's, Carleton Place.*
W. Bros. A. S. Gorrell, W. M.; W. R. Williamson and D.
H. McIntosh, P. Ms.
- No. 64. *Kilwinning, London.*
W. Bros. L. W. Scandrett, W. M.; A. A. Campbell and
E. Gardiner, P. M's.
- No. 65. *Rehoboam, Toronto.*
W. Bro. D. Hoskins, W. M.; Bro. E. H. Briggs, S. W.;
R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon; W. Bros. A. Dinnis, F. Arm-
strong, E. F. Clarke and W. J. Graham, P. M's.

- No. 68. *St. John's, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. A. Rose, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, P. M.
- No. 69. *Stirling, Stirling.*
W. Bros. A. Chard, P. M. and Proxy; B. O. Lott, P. M.
- No. 72. *Alma, Galt.*
R. W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart, Proxy.
- No. 73. *St. James, St. Marys.*
W. Bro. J. R. Stewart, Proxy.
- No. 74. *St. James, Bethel.*
W. Bro. Robert Edwards, W. M.
- No. 75. *St. John's, Toronto.*
V. W. Bro. Jos. Thompson, P. M. and Proxy; W. Bros. C. Matthews and Spencer Love, P. M's.
- No. 76. *Oxford, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. Rev. J. C. Farthing, W. M.; R. W. Bro. James Sutherland; W. Bros. H. J. Finkle and James McLurg, P. M's.
- No. 77. *Faithful Brethren, Lindsay.*
Bro. Andrew Williamson, S. W.
- No. 78. *King Hiram, Tilsonburg.*
W. Bro. J. G. Bottomley, Proxy.
- No. 79. *Simcoe, Bradford.*
W. Bro. Alvin Orton, W. M.
- No. 81. *St. John's, Mount Brydges.*
R. W. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.
- No. 82. *St. John's, Paris.*
W. Bro. James Smiley, Proxy.
- No. 83. *Beaver, Strathroy.*
W. Bro. John Robertson, W. M.
- No. 84. *Clinton, Clinton.*
R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, Proxy.
- No. 86. *Wilson, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. J. Gee, W. M.
- No. 87. *Markham Union, Markham.*
W. Bro. J. B. Gould, W. M.; R. W. Bro. G. R. Van Zant; W. Bro. R. J. Green, P. M's.
- No. 88. *St. George's, Owen Sound.*
R. W. Bros. J. McLauchlan, P. M. and Proxy; R. McKnight, P. M.
- No. 90. *Manitou, Collingwood.*
W. Bro. Daniel Wilson, W. M.; M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson and R. W. Bro. W. T. Toner, P. M's.
- No. 91. *Colborne, Colborne.*
W. Bro. W. Bellamy, W. M.; Bro. B. M. Jones, J. W.
- No. 92. *Cataraqui, Kingston.*
V. W. Bro. A. Shaw, P. M. and Proxy.

No. 93. Northern Light, Kincardine.

W. Bro. J. H. Scott, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn,
P. M.

No. 94. St. Mark's, Port Stanley.

R. W. Bro. S. Dubber, Proxy.

No. 96. Corinthian, Barrie.

W. Bro. A. Cowan, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt,
P. M.

No. 97. Sharon, Sharon.

W. Bro. J. T. Power, P. M. and Proxy.

No. 99. Tuscan, Newmarket.

W. Bro. Alfred Webb, W. M.

No. 100. Valley, Dundas.

W. Bro. G. C. Wilson, W. M.; V. W. Bro. F. A. Latshaw,
P. M.

No. 101. Corinthian, Peterboro.

W. Bro. Mackay, W. M.; R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, P. M.

No. 103. Maple Leaf, St. Catharines.

Bro. B. J. Leubsdorf, S. W.

No. 104. St. John's, Norwich.

W. Bro. Robert, Grey, W. M.

No. 106. Burford, Burford.

W. Bro. David Secord, W. M.

No. 107. St. Paul's, Lambeth.

W. Bros. James Kelly, W. M.; J. W. Crinklaw, P. M.

No. 108. Blenheim, Princeton.

W. Bro. James Smiley, P. M. and Proxy.

No. 109. Albion, Haarrowsmith.

W. Bro. A. Lockhart, W. M.

No. 110. Central, Prescott.

W. Bro. S. J. McClelland, W. M.; Bro. H. F. Deas, J. W.;
R. W. Bros. Geo. Rook, J. F. Graham; W. Bro. J. N.
Graham, P. M's.

No. 113. Wilson, Waterford.

W. Bro. D. S. Bale, W. M.

No. 114. Hope, Port Hope.

W. Bro. J. B. White, W. M.

No. 115. Ivy, Beamsville.

M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, P. M. and Proxy.

No. 116. Cassia, Thedford.

W. Bro. Caleb Kennedy, W. M.

No. 119. Maple Leaf, Bath.

W. Bro. Jos. Morgan, W. M.

No. 120. Warren, Fingal.

W. Bros. F. Guest, P. M. and Proxy; G. E. Casey, P. M.

- No. 121. Dorio, Brantford.*
W. Bro. W. H. Inglis, W. M.; R. W. Bros. L. Secord and J. G. Liddell and W. Bro. C. B. Heyd, P. M's.
- No. 122. Renfrew, Renfrew.*
W. Bro. D. A. Ward, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. Barr and W. Bros. T. R. Brownlee, W. A. Mackay, T. B. Muir, E. Mayhew, N. W. Cleary, James Craig and David Brownlee, P. M's.
- No. 123. The Belleville, Belleville.*
W. Bro. J. W. Johnson, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Henry Pringle, P. M.
- No. 125. Cornwall, Cornwall.*
W. Bros. J. G. Harkness, W. M.; J. Ridley, P. M.
- No. 128. Pembroke, Pembroke.*
W. Bro. J. Bodell, W. M.; Bro. A. Foster, J. W.; R. W. Bros. J. H. Burritt and Geo. E. Josephs; V. W. Bro. R. W. Kenning, and W. Bros. J. W. Leach, J. C. Stewart, G. D. Bayne, J. G. Forge and Robert Russell, P.M's.
- No. 129. The Rising Sun, Aurora.*
W. Bro. James McClosky, P. M.
- No. 131. St. Lawrence, Southampton.*
W. Bros. D. Macauley, P. M. and Proxy; J. Johns P. M.
- No. 133. Lebanon Forest, Exeter.*
R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, Proxy.
- No. 136. Richardson, Stouffville.*
W. Bro. J. H. Gould, Proxy.
- No. 137. Pythagoras, Meaford.*
W. Bro. L. F. Boyd, W. M.; Bro. Rev. D. J. Caswell, S.W.
- No. 139. Lebanon, Oshawa.*
W. Bro. W. Dickie, S. W.
- No. 140. Malahide, Aylmer.*
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.
- No. 143. Friendly Brothers, Iroquois.*
W. Bro. A. D. Harkness, P. M.
- No. 144. Tecumseh, Stratford.*
W. Bro. R. T. Harding, W. M.; R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney and W. Bro. J. R. Stewart, P. M's.
- No. 145. J. B Hall, Millbrook.*
W. Bros. A. A. Smith, W. M.; W. T. Wood, P. M.
- No. 146. Prince of Wales, Newburgh.*
W. Bro. Robert Guy, W. M.; R. W. Bros. G. A. Aylesworth and R. W. Longmore, P. M's.
- No. 147. Mississippi, Almonte.*
W. Bros. John Argue, W. M.; J. S. Coulter and W. C. Pollock, P. M's.

- No. 148. Civil Service, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. L. B. Scott, W. M.; Bros. E. L. Horwood, S. W.; E. B. Echlin, J. W.; R. W. Bros. John Walsh and Le F. A. Maingy; V. W. Bros. H. P. Macdonell and E. S. Teetham and W. Bros. E. L. Learoyd, N. L. Blair, C. H. Masters, L. N. Coutlee, A. W. Harris, J. C. Saunders, S. C. D. Roper, P. M's.
- No. 149. Erie, Port Dover.*
R. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson, Proxy.
- No. 151. The Grand River, Berlin*
W. Bro. A. Oelschlager, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 153. Burns, Wyoming.*
W. Bros. Robert Hart, W. M.; R. Coghlan, P. M.
- No. 154. Irving, Lucan.*
R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, Proxy.
- No. 155. Peterborough, Peterborough.*
W. Bro. W. E. Conway, W. M.; Bro. G. J. Roszel, J. W.; R. W. Bro. Henry Rush and V. W. Bro. Alex. Gibson, P. M's.
- No. 156. York, North Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. E. Hoffland, W. M.
- No. 157. Simpson, Newboro.'*
R. W. Bro. L. S. Lewis, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 158. Alexandra, Oil Springs.*
W. Bro. A. W. Parks, W. M.
- No. 159. Goodwood, Richmond.*
W. Bro. A. Jamieson, P. M.
- No. 165. Burlington, Burlington.*
Bro. W. T. Glover, S. W.
- No. 166. Wentworth, Stoney Creek.*
W. Bro. J. C. Springstead, W. M.
- No. 168. Merritt, Welland.*
W. Bro. J. H. Crow, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 169. Macnab, Port Colborne.*
W. Bro. J. H. Crow, Proxy.
- No. 170. Britannia, Seaforth.*
W. Bro. John H. Reid, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 171. Prince of Wales, Lawrence Station.*
W. Bro. F. Guest, Proxy.
- No. 174. Washington, Port Rowan.*
W. Bro. Joseph Bottomley, Proxy.
- No. 177. The Builders, Ottawa.*
Bros. W. H. V. Hooper, S. W.; J. S. McCracken, J. W.; R. W. Bros. Wm. Rea, E. B. Butterworth, Fred Cook, and David Taylor; V. W. Bro. J. C. Kearns and W. Bros. John Beihler, E. Daubney, E. A. Bradshaw, H. H. Cairns, H. F. Webb and T. W. Currier, P. M's.

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W. Bro. W. G. Stephenson, W. M.; W. Bro. W. A. Rapp,
S. W.; W. Bro. R. M. Lindsay, P. M.
- No. 184. *Old Light, Lucknow.*
R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, Proxy.
- No. 185. *Enniskillen, York.*
R. W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal, Proxy.
- No. 186. *Plantaganet, Plantaganet.*
W. Bro. F. L. Switzer, W. M.; Bro. M. W. Shepherd,
J. W.; V. W. Bro. John Smith and W. Bros. Wm. Frank-
lin, W. A. Chamberlain and Henry Smith, P. M's.
- No. 190. *Belmont, Belmont.*
R. W. Bro. A. E. Cooper, Proxy.
- No. 192. *Orillia, Orillia.*
Bro. A. E. Ardagh, S. W.
- No. 193. *Scotland, Scotland.*
W. Bro. E. G. Malcolm, W. M.
- No. 194. *Petrolia, Petrolia.*
R. W. Bro. John Sinclair, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 195. *The Tuscan, London.*
W. Bro. W. A. Young, W. M.; R. W. Bros. R. B. Hunger-
ford, and P. W. D. Brodrick, V. W. Bro. Thomas Beattie
and W. Bro. A. G. McWhinney, P. M's.
- No. 196. *Madawaska, Arnprior.*
W. Bro. Geo. Richman, W. M.; Bro. F. Montforte, S. W.
- No. 197. *Saugeen, Walkerton.*
W. Bro. David Traill, W. M.
- No. 201. *Leeds, Gananoque.*
Bro. F. J. Skinner, J. W.; W. Bro. W. T. Heaslip, P. M.
- No. 203. *Irvine, Elora.*
W. Bro. N. MacMurchy, W. M.; W. Bros. Edward Burns
and J. J. Craig, P. M's.
- No. 205. *New Dominion, New Hamburg.*
W. Bro. W. H. Kerr, W. M.
- No. 207. *Lancaster, Lancaster.*
W. Bro. R. T. Nicholson, W. M.
- No. 209a. *St. John's London.*
W. Bro. A. W. White, W. M.; R. W. Bros. A. E. Cooper
and J. S. Dewar; V. W. Bro. C. A. Kingston and W.
A. Macdonald, P. M's.
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W. Bro. Christopher Forbes, W. M.
- No. 212. *Elysian, Garden Island.*
V. W. Bro. A. Shaw, Proxy.
- No. 215. *Lake, Ameliasburg.*
W. Bro. Wesley Sager, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. H. G.
Stafford, P. M.

- No. 216. Harris, Orangeville*
R. W. Bro. John McLaren, P. M., Proxy; W. Bros. Robert Mann and Robert Irvine, P. M's.
- No. 217. Frederick, Delhi.*
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- No. 218. Stevenson, Toronto.*
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- No. 219. Credit, Georgetown.*
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- No. 220. Zeredatha, Uxbridge.*
W. Bros. J. H. O'Brien, W. M.; H. J. Gould, P. M.
- No. 223. Norwood, Norwood.*
W. Bro. Wm. Hutchinson, W. M.
- No. 224. Zurich, Hensall.*
Bro. H. T. D. Cooke, S. W.
- No. 225. Bernard, Listowel.*
W. Bro. F. R. Blewett, W. M.; R. W. Bros. D. D. Campbell and Wm. Irwin, P. M's.
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W. Bro. F. T. Dibb, P. M.; Proxy.
- No. 229. Ionic, Brampton.*
R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, Proxy.
- No. 230. Kerr, Barrie.*
R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 231. Fidelity, Ottawa.*
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W. Bro. J. H. Reid, Proxy.
- No. 234. Beaver, Clarksburg.*
R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, Proxy.
- No. 235. Aldworth, Paisley.*
W. Bro. C. Morrison, Proxy.
- No. 238. Havelock, Watford.*
W. Bro. Thomas Harris, W. M.
- No. 242. Macoy, Mallorytown.*
W. Bro. J. C. Dickey, W. M.
- No. 243. St. George, St. George.*
W. Bro. J. H. Fleming, W. M.
- No. 245. Tecumseh, Thamesville.*
W. Bros. John A. Stewart, P. M., Proxy; E. S. Hubble, P. M.

- No. 247. *Ashlar, Toronto.*
R. W. Bro. B. Allen, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 250. *Thistle, Thistle.*
R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, Proxy.
- No. 253. *Minden, Kingston.*
W. Bro. John Nicolle, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, P. M.
- No. 254. *Clifton, Niagara Falls.*
W. Bros. F. F. Wood, W. M.; W. P. Lyon, P. M.
- No. 256. *Farran's Point, Farran's Point.*
Bro. M. W. Ridley, S. W.; W. Bro. A. W. Ault, P. M.
- No. 257. *Galt, Galt.*
R. W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart, Proxy.
- No. 258. *Guelph, Guelph.*
W. Bro. R. Mahoney, jr., W. M.; R. W. Bro. R. Mahoney, sr., and W. Bro. Robt. Higham, P. M's.
- No. 260. *Washington, Petrolia.*
R. W. Bro. John Sinclair, Proxy.
- No. 261. *Oak Branch, Innerkip.*
R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, Proxy.
- No. 262. *Harriston, Harriston.*
W. Bro. H. R. McCullough, W. M.; R. W. Bro. A. G. Campbell and W. Bro. R. Dowling, P. M's.
- No. 263. *Forest, Forest.*
W. Bro. A. F. Steele, W. M.
- No. 264. *Chaudiere Ottawa.*
W. Bro. James Elliott, W. M.; Bros. A. P. McCuaig, S. W.; W. M. Ross, J. W.; W. Bros. R. W. Fair, R. Stewart, W. Banger, W. D. Jones, D. J. McCuaig, J. A. Clark and Wm. Hill, P. M's.
- No. 265. *Patterson, Thornhill.*
W. Bro. J. E. Francis, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 266. *Northern Light, Stayner.*
R. W. Bro. W. B. Sanders, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 269. *Brougham Union, Brougham.*
W. Bros. A. E. Major, W. M.; S. B. Lynde, P. M.
- No. 271. *Wellington, Erin.*
W. Bro. F. W. Royce, W. M.
- No. 272. *Seymour, Ancaster.*
W. Bro. Geo. Butter, W. M.; Bro. G. D. Farmer, J. W.
- No. 274. *Kent, Blenheim.*
W. Bros. John Crookshank, P. M., Proxy; W. H. Jamieson, P. M.
- No. 279. *New Hope, Hespeler.*
W. Bro. Thomas Shaw, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart and W. Bro. W. H. Weaver, (P. M's.

- No. 282. *Lorne, Glencoe.*
W. Bro. W. J. French, W. M.
- No. 283. *Eureka, Belleville.*
W. Bro. C. O. Brickman, W. M.
- No. 284. *St. John's, Brussels.*
W. Bro. A. Cousley, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 285. *Seven Star, Alliston.*
W. Bro. W. S. Ellis, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 287. *Shuniah, Port Arthur.*
R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, Proxy.
- No. 289. *Doric, Lobo.*
V. W. Bro. J. D. Dewar, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 290. *Leamington, Leamington.*
W. Bro. Wm. Irwin, W. M.; R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, P. M.
- No. 291. *Dufferin, West Flamboro.*
W. Bro. A. C. Ross, W. M.
- No. 292. *Robertson, Nobleton.*
W. Bros. T. J. Norman, W. M.; J. W. Crossley, P. M.
- No. 296. *Temple, St. Catharines*
W. Bro. J. W. Cornwell, W. M.
- No. 297. *Preston, Preston.*
W. Bro. Otto Klotz, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 300. *Mt. Olivet, Thorndale.*
W. Bro. Richard Fitzgerald, W. M.
- No. 302. *St. David's, St. Thomas.*
R. W. Bro. S. Dubber, Proxy.
- No. 304. *Minerva, Stroud.*
W. Bro. Alex. Cowan, Proxy.
- No. 305. *Humber, Weston.*
W. Bro. T. E. Elliott, W. M.
- No. 307. *Arkona, Arkona.*
W. Bro. Caleb Kennedy, Proxy.
- No. 309. *Morning Star, Smith's Hill.*
W. Bro. George Porter, Proxy.
- No. 312. *Pynx, Wallaceburg.*
R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, Proxy.
- No. 313. *Clementi, Lakesfield.*
W. Bro. R. J. Munro, P. M.; Proxy: V. W. Bro. John Hull, P. M.
- No. 314. *Blair, Palmerston.*
R. W. Bro. Hugh Hyndman, sr., and V. W. Bro. Hugh Hyndman, jr., P. M's.
- No. 316. *Doric, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. E. Cook, W. M.

- No. 318. *Wilmot, Baden.*
R. W. Bro. F. Holwell, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 320. *Chesterville, Chesterville.*
W. Bro. R. M. Smith, P. M.
- No. 321. *Walker, Acton West.*
V. W. Bro. S. Beaumont, Proxy.
- No. 322. *North Star, Owen Sound.*
W. Bro. R. McDowall, W. M.; Bro. W. H. Wright, S. W;
W. Bro. W. A. Bishop, P. M.
- No. 323. *Alvinston, Alvinston.*
W. Bro. J. B. Martyn, W. M.
- No. 324. *Temple, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. R. V. Matthews, Proxy.
- No. 326. *Zetland, Toronto.*
W. Bro. H. A. Taylor, P. M., Proxy; M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, V. W. Bros. C. F. Mansell and C. J. Hohl, and
W. Bros. W. J. L. Anderson and W. D. McPherson, P. M's.
- No. 327. *The Hammond, Wardsville.*
W. Bros. E. Aitchison, P. M., Proxy; and J. T. McKillop, P. M.
- No. 329. *King Solomon's, Jarvis.*
R. W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal, Proxy.
- No. 330. *Corinthian, London East.*
W. Bro. C. Blanchard, W. M.; V. W. Bros. Peter Toll, P. M.
- No. 331. *Fordwich, Fordwich.*
V. W. Bro. Alex. Wyness, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 332. *Stratford, Stratford.*
Bro. F. B. Jeffrey, S. W.; R. W. Bros. J. E. Harding and J. A. Macfadden, P. M's.
- No. 333. *Prince Arthur, Flesherton.*
R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, Proxy.
- No. 334. *Prince Arthur, Arthur.*
W. Bro. Edward Burns, Proxy.
- No. 336. *Highgate, Highgate.*
W. Bro. Henry Bailey, W. M.
- No. 338. *Dufferin, Wellandport.*
W. Bros. J. E. Cohoe, W. M.; W. Shafley, P. M.
- No. 339. *Orient, Toronto.*
W. Bros. John Jones, W. M.; Ira Bates, James MacFarlane, F. G. Inwood, J. K. Leslie, A. B. Crosby and G. S. Cleland, P. M's.
- No. 341. *Bruce, Tiverton.*
R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, Proxy.
- No. 343. *Georgina, Toronto.*
W. Bro. H. T. White, W. M.; Bro. W. M. Grant, S. W.;
W. Bro. A. L. Malone, P. M.

- No. 344. *Merrill, Dorchester.*
Bro. E. E. Smith, S. W.
- No. 345. *Nilestown, Nilestown.*
Bro. R. H. Reid, J. W.
- No. 346. *The Occident, Toronto.*
W. Bros. W. J. A. Lake, W. M.; J. S. Williams, P. M.
- No. 347. *Mercer, Fergus.*
W. Bro. A. McMurchy, Proxy.
- No. 348. *Georgian, Penetang.*
W. Bro. Alfred A. Norton, W. M.
- No. 352. *Granite, Parry Sound.*
W. Bro. Edwin Pirie, W. M.; Bro. J. A. Cryderman, J. W.;
R. W. Bro. J. H. Knifton, V. W. Bros. W. McGown and
W. E. Foote and W. Bros. Thomas McGown and James
Calder, P. M's.
- No. 354. *Brock, Cannington.*
W. Bro. A. A. Mackenzie, W. M.
- No. 356. *River Park, Streetsville.*
W. Bro. W. Couse, W. M.
- No. 357. *Waterdown, Millgrove.*
W. Bro. Henry Clarke, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 358. *Delaware Valley, Delaware.*
W. Bros. Jas. Finch, W. M.; R. W. Bro. W. C. Harris
and W. Bros. J. R. Hammond and James Bradt, P. M's.
- No. 359. *Vittoria, Vittoria.*
R. W. Bros. T. R. Atkinson, Proxy, and William Kennedy,
P. M.
- No. 360. *Muskoka, Bracebridge.*
R. W. Bros. Richard Mills, P. M., Proxy, and Isaac Huber,
P. M.
- No. 361. *Waverley, Guelph.*
W. Bros. Chas. Law, W. M., and J. H. Naismith, P. M.
- No. 362. *Maple Leaf, Tara.*
W. Bro. Jas. A. McDonald, W. M.
- No. 367. *St. George, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. W. Hickson, W. M.
- No. 368. *Salem, Brockville.*
W. Bro. W. B. Reynolds, W. M.
- No. 369. *Mimico, Islington.*
W. Bro. F. F. Reeves, W. M.; Bro. A. B. Rice, S. W.
- No. 371. *Prince of Wales, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. E. J. L. Gallagher, W. M.; Bros. John Wilson,
S. W.; Edward Burns, J. W.; V. W. Bro. Wm. Borthwick
and W. Bros. J. B. Wright, J. W. Turley, C. W. Close
and Wm. Northwood, P. M's.

- No. 372. Palmer, Bridgeburg.*
W. Bro. T. J. Wilbee, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 373. Copestone, Welland.*
W. Bro. G. W. Sutherland, W. M.; R. W. Bro. I. P. Willson, P. M.
- No. 374. Keene, Keene.*
Bro. John Rushell, S. W.; V. W. Bro. James McNeil and W. Bros. J. M. Shaw and A. C. McGregor, P.M's.
- No. 376. Unity, Huntsville.*
W. Bros. J. N. Shearer, P. M., Proxy, and J. W. Hart, P. M.
- No. 377. Lorne, Shelburne.*
W. Bro. Joseph Symington, W. M.
- No. 378. King Solomon's, London West.*
W. Bros. F. A. Andrewes, W. M.; and A. R. Galpin, P. M.
- No. 379. Middlesex, Bryanston.*
Bro. Paul Broome, S. W.
- No. 380. Union, London.*
W. Bros. H. H. Ryan, W. M., and O. J. Bridle, W. C. Fitzgerald and G. F. Morris, P.M's.
- No. 382. Doric, Hamilton.*
W. Bros. H. J. Gilbert, W. M.; F. Walter, P. M.
- No. 383. Henderson, West Winchester.*
W. Bros. S. S. Reveler, W. M.; A. Cameron, J. W.; W. J. Fraser, P. M.
- No. 384. Alpha, Toronto.*
W. Bros. J. W. Isaacs, W. M.; V. W. Bro. E. J. Voss and W. Bros. J. W. St. John and J. E. Verrall, P. M's.
- No. 385. Spry, Beeton.*
W. Bro. J. R. Croft, W. M.
- No. 386. McColl, West Lorne.*
Bro. D. McKillop, S. W.
- No. 388. Henderson, Ilderton.*
W. Bro. G. F. Morris, Proxy.
- No. 391. Howard, Ridgetown.*
W. Bro. A. G. Kennedy, W. M.
- No. 392. Huron, Camlachie.*
W. Bro. P. McG. Brown, P. M.
- No. 393. Forest, Chesley.*
W. Bro. James Anderson, P. M.
- No. 394. King Solomon's, Thamesford.*
W. Bros. J. G. McNee, P. M., Proxy, and R. F. O'Neil, P. M.
- No. 395. Parvaim, Comber.*
W. Bro. A. J. Brown, P. M., Proxy.

- No. 396. Cedar, Wiarton.*
W. Bro. W. J. Ferguson, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. James Walmsley; V. W. Bro. John Irwin and W. Bros. J. E. Campbell and James Symon, P. M's.
- No. 398. Victoria, Kirkfield.*
W. Bro. W. L. Wood, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 400. Oakville, Oakville.*
W. Bro. James C. Ford, W. M.
- No. 402. Central, Essex Centre.*
W. Bros. H. P. Martin, W. M., and A. O. Stimers, P. M.
- No. 403. Windsor, Windsor.*
W. Bro. C. Koellen, W. M.; Bros. F. P. Gavin, S. W., and F. Bridges, J. W.
- No. 404. Lorne, Tamworth.*
W. Bro. James M. Smith, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 405. Mattawa, Mattawa.*
W. Bros. W. Hogarth, P. M., Proxy, and John McKay and C. W. Haentschel, P. M's.
- No. 406. The Spry, Fenelon Falls.*
R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, Proxy.
- No. 408. Murray, Beaverton.*
R. W. Bro. James Evans, Proxy.
- No. 409. Golden Rule, Gravenhurst.*
W. Bro. W. W. Winfield, W. M.
- No. 410. Zeta, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 411. Rodney, Rodney.*
W. Bro. O. R. G. Stinson, W. M.
- No. 412. Keystone, Sault St. Marie.*
Bro. J. B. Way, S. W.; R. W. Bro. W. I. Bradley, P. M.
- No. 413. Naphtali, Tilbury.*
R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, Proxy.
- No. 414. Pequonga, Rat Portage.*
W. Bro. Miles Birkett, Proxy.
- No. 415. Fort William, Fort William.*
R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 416. Lyn, Lyn.*
W. Bros. A. E. Cumming, P. M., Proxy, and G. W. Grant, P. M.
- No. 417. Keewatin, Keewatin.*
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Proxy.
- No. 418. Maxville, Maxville.*
W. Bro. G. W. Shepherd, W. M.; Bro. T. W. Munroe, S. W.; V. W. Bro. S. Henry and M. D. Carther, P. M's.
- No. 419. Bismarck, Point Edward.*
W. Bro. D. W. Mackenzie, W. M.

- No. 420. Nipissing, North Bay.*
W. Bro. A. J. Young, W. M.; R. W. Bro. W. H. Burgess
and W. Bro. G. W. Liddle, P. M's.
- No. 421. Scott, Grand Valley.*
W. Bro. J. A. V. Preston, W. M.
- No. 423. Strong, Sundridge.*
W. Bro. W. D. Auldjo, P. M.
- No. 424. Doric, Pickering.*
W. Bro. W. G. Gormley, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 425. St. Clair, Sombra.*
W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Proxy.
- No. 426. Stanley, Toronto Junction.*
R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, Proxy, and W. Bro. J. R.
Royce, P. M.
- No. 429. Port Elgin, Port Elein.*
W. Bro. John George, W. M.
- No. 430. Acacia, East Toronto.*
W. Bro. John Parsell, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 431. Moravian, Eden Grove.*
W. Bro. Cecil W. Morrison, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 432. Hanover, Hanover.*
W. Bros. G. Landerkin and John Sutherland, P. M's.
- No. 433. Bonnechere, Eganville.*
W. Bro. H. J. Beatty, W. M.; Bro. A. Luloff, J. W.; W.
Bro. A. J. Sparling, P. M.
- No. 434. Algonquin, Emsdale.*
Bro. W. L. B. Hamlin, J. W.
- No. 435. Havelock, Havelock.*
W. Bro. Jos. Dorricott, W. M.
- No. 437. Tuscan, Sarnia.*
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.
- No. 438. Harmony, Toronto.*
R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, Proxy.
- No. 439. Alexandria, Alexandria.*
W. Bro. E. H. Tiffany, W. M.; Bro. J. N. McDougall,
S. W.
- No. 440. Arcadia, Minden.*
W. Bro. J. W. Watson, W. M.
- No. 441. Tecumseh, Stratford.*
W. Bro. Robert Flegg, W. M.
- No. 444. Nitetis, Creemore.*
W. Bro. W. S. Ellis, P. M., Proxy.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The M. W. the Grand Master delivered the following address to the brethren assembled in Grand Communication :

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE,—

With emotions of gratitude and pleasure I extend to you my heartiest fraternal greeting as we assemble in this our Forty-Fourth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. We are gathered together from all parts of this much favored and prosperous Province, from every honorable calling and pursuit, to give an account of the past and to legislate for the future. May we in all our deliberations be careful that the integrity of the craft is conserved and the rights and privileges of the subordinate lodges respected.

I bring you tidings of peace and prosperity from all parts of the jurisdiction. Our lodges are in a flourishing condition; our craftsmen are engaged in works of love and charity; our financial returns will show an increase over that of any previous year, and our Grand Lodge is in cordial and fraternal relations with every legitimate Grand Lodge in the world. We are a favored people; our country is in a prosperous and peaceful condition with bright prospects for a continuation of such blessings. Let us therefore at the commencement of our labors return thanks to Almighty God for the abundant mercies bestowed upon us, and pray that the business of the session may be conducted under His watchful care.

In accordance with the requirements of the constitution it becomes my duty to render an account of my stewardship during the past year, to place before you such information as I may possess regarding the condition of the craft, and to submit for your consideration such subjects as in my opinion require your attention.

On entering upon the duties of the honorable and important office to which I was so unanimously elected one short year ago, I had many misgivings as to my ability to conduct the affairs of a Grand Lodge which occupies a leading position among the Grand Lodges of the civilized world, but the cordial support which I have received from every member of the craft with whom

I have come in contact; the ready acquiescence in all my rulings; the courtesy, love and kindness extended to me whenever I was permitted to visit my brethren, made the duties of the office one of love and pleasure.

I can assure you, brethren, that the responsibilities of the position are very great, and that a conscientious discharge of duty necessarily entails great sacrifices of time and money. An illustrious brother ably describes the situation as follows: "He who is selected to preside over the affairs of men in matters relating to their civil government has always an arduous and tedious task to perform, but much greater are the responsibilities of him who has been chosen to manage for a time the destiny, to preserve the integrity and keep inviolate the purity of the principles of a great moral institution like ours, which for centuries has wrought so potential an influence in advancing and preserving the civilization and enlightenment of the people of the earth." I can conscientiously say that whatever ability I possess has been earnestly devoted towards qualifying myself to fill acceptably the position of ruler of the craft. I have endeavored in my feeble way to teach the brethren, both by example and precept, to work at all times for the best interest of the fraternity. I am a firm believer in Masonry, its influence to elevate the moral tone of mankind, and its power to teach man his duty to his fellow man. It has therefore been my aim to impress my brethren with the necessity of giving to the world on all occasions practical proof of the benefit of the craft to humanity and its claim to an existence in this progressive and prosperous age. Lectures and discussions on the history and antiquity of the craft may be instructive and entertaining, but in my opinion for a Grand Master to be successful in his mission he must get close to the hearts of his brethren, indulge in plain, practical common sense talks, impress on his hearers that the success of the order depends upon individual conduct and effort, that it will be exalted in proportion to the manner in which its adherents exemplify the doctrine of love to God and love to man. I have learned much from my brethren. I trust I may have been of some assistance to them, and that our association may have been the means of adding strength to the craft and in demonstrating to the world that the disreputable and the dishonest have no part or place with us.

IN MEMORIAM

These annual communications are looked forward to with great pleasure. As we look over the faces of those in attendance we see old friends with whom we have been associated for years, whose hand clasp is of the warmest and whose friendship is of untold value, but a feeling of sadness creeps over our hearts when we observe the breaks in our ranks and know that the Grim Reaper has been busy during the past year. Familiar faces have passed away, and the voices of those with whom we delighted to converse are hushed forever. The names of those who occupied leading positions in the craft, and whose counsel and advice were eagerly sought after, are not heard at this roll call. The answer has been given for the last time, but we revere their memory in our hearts; their good deeds will live after them and their virtues will be emulated by those who survive them. Let us so shape our lives and actions that no matter at what time or hour the Master knocks we will be in attendance to open to Him.

" My summons may come in the morning
Or the deep peaceful slumbers of night,
It may come with a lingering warning,
Or as quick as a flash of sunlight.
It may come when my thoughts are astray
While I'm sitting alone in my dwelling
Or greeting some friend on the way;
But the day or the hour when the bidding
Comes to me, I never can know,
And I pray at the call of the Master
I may answer I'm ready to go."

Among the many who have passed away since our last communication I have to record the following:

R. W. Bro. David Collins, P. D. D. G. M., died on 21st September, 1898. He was a member of Northern Light Lodge, Kincardine, and in 1893 was D. D. G. M. of North Huron District. He was one of Kincardine's best and most respected citizens and was popular among all classes.

On the 23rd October, 1898, R. W. Bro. John Walter Murton, P. G. S. W., passed to his rest at his home in the city of Hamilton. He was widely known and had hosts of friends among the craft in the United States as well as in Canada and was considered an authority on craft matters. He had a pleasant manner and kindly

disposition, and was a warm-hearted, charitable citizen. At the time of his death he was Sheriff of the County of Wentworth. Brethren from all parts of Canada were assembled at his funeral.

The death of R. W. Bro. Francis Richardson, at Toronto, on the 11th day of October, 1898, was the severance of one of the last links which bound us to the Masonry of the first half of this century. He was 85 years of age, and had been an honored member of the fraternity for over half a century. He was G. S. Warden and Provincial Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge under the Grand Lodge of England. He was Grand Secretary of the Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada, and on its amalgamation with the Grand Lodge of Canada, under M. W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson, he gave to it his allegiance and was the first D. D. G. M. for the Toronto District. He was a member of St. Andrew's and Ionic Lodges, Toronto.

On the 25th February, 1898, R. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon, Grand Registrar of the Grand Lodge, died at his home in Dunnville. He was a most enthusiastic Mason and his loss will be keenly felt. He was ex-Reeve of the town and a member of the County Council.

The death of R. W. Bro. G. H. F. Dartnell was recorded on the second day of February, 1899. He was an old and valued member of Grand Lodge in the early years of Grand Lodge ably filled the position of D. D. G. M. He was the Senior Judge of the County Court of the County of Ontario and was noted for his forensic lore.

R. W. Bro. W. L. Hamilton, of Belleville, was suddenly called away on the eighteenth day of April, 1899. He was D. D. G. M. of St. Lawrence District, and for years served on the Board of General Purposes, of which he was a valued member. He was a true friend and good citizen, and at the time of his death held the position of Inspector in the Inland Revenue Service of the Dominion.

In the month of May this year R. W. Bro. Wm. Waddington, P. D. D. G. M., died at his home in Kingston.

Each of these brethren were faithful in the discharge of their respective duties, and as their names are called to-day, we sigh

"For the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still."

I received a circular from the Grand Lodge of the State of Nebraska, notifying me of the death of its first Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Robert C. Jordan, who ruled over the Grand Lodge from 1857 to 1860. He died at Omaha on the 9th of January, 1899, aged 74 years. I regret also to record the death of R. W. Bro. Bowen, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska; of R. W. Bro. C. C. Stevenson, Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of Idaho; of M. W. Bro. B. L. Carr, our representative near the Grand Lodge of Colorado; of M. W. Bro. Andrew Bunton, our representative at Grand Lodge of New Hampshire; of M. W. Bro. John T. Williamson, our representative at Grand Lodge of Tennessee; and of Bro. Ramon Marti Boada, our representative at the Grand Lodge of Cuba.

I was also notified of the death of M. W. Bro. Enoch T. Carson, of Cincinnati, Ohio. He filled all the principal offices in Grand Lodge and was best known as an eminent Masonic authority on all matters relating to ritual.

The Mother Grand Lodge of England mourns the death of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G. C. B., M. W. Pro.-Grand Master of England, and R. W. Prov. Grand Master of the Western Division of Lancashire. He was one of the kindest and most generous of men, as well as one of the most distinguished and most popular and respected among the rulers of English Masonry. He was initiated over 40 years ago in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford. In 1862 he was appointed by the late Earl of Zetland as Senior Grand Warden. His death is a serious loss to the craft throughout the world.

Before leaving this branch of the subject it is incumbent upon me to draw your attention to a neglect of Masonic duty which has come under my observation. I refer to the attendance, particularly in the cities, at the funerals of deceased brethren. We owe it to the brethren to pay the last sad office of respect to their memory. It is true that there are many demands upon a business man's time, but the same should not prevent the craft from giving heed to the call of our lodges and follow to the grave those whom in life we were proud to call brothers. As a contrast of this neglect of Masonic duty in some of our cities, I gladly record the conduct of the members of Oxford and King Solomon Lodges, in the

town of Woodstock, who turned out some eighty strong to attend on New Year's day, 1899, the coldest day of the month, the funeral of a brother, who in his lifetime resided in the northern part of the province, and who desired to be buried in his native town. Very few of the Woodstock brethren were acquainted with the deceased, but when his wish was made known to them on the forenoon of the day previous to the funeral, so strong was their sense of duty that the body of the brother was borne to the grave and interred with Masonic honors by the good brethren of Woodstock. Although on only a day's visit to the town, my duty was so impressed upon me by what I saw that I borrowed an E. A. apron and took part in the ceremonies. Brethren, ponder over this matter and by your future conduct justify your claim to the title of Freemasons.

CONDITIONS OF THE CRAFT.

Information from all parts of the province justifies me in reporting a very prosperous year. I am safe in claiming an increase of almost one thousand in our membership. Brethren who were estranged from us for years are again in the fold. The work of the lodges is in with love for the order and a determination to live up to its precepts. In addition to the large sums of money granted annually by Grand Lodge for benevolence, I am pleased to note that the subordinate Lodges are alive to their duty and have expended over eight thousand dollars in practical Masonic charity. I know whereof I speak, as I am aware of many cases where the gifts from the Lodges and individual members proved of inestimable value to the bereaved ones.

I am proud of my Brethren and can apply to them the encomium passed by an illustrious Brother of the craft in Omaha. "It may almost be said, paraphrasing the words of the Holy Writ, 'I have been young and now am old, yet have I never seen a Mason forsaken nor his seed wanting bread.'" During my term of office I have been very fortunate in being surrounded with officers who had the best interest of the Craft at heart. From the Deputy Grand Master down through the list of officers, all have been at my command, their services have been at my disposal at all times, and they will merit your applause. I know the brethren will agree with me

in making special mention of a class of officers, who, in my opinion, undergo greater trials and suffer more privations in the cause of Masonry than all other representatives of Grand Lodge. I allude to the D.D. G. M.'s. of the nineteen Masonic Districts. I have no hesitation in affirming that the great success and prosperity which we now enjoy are due to these enthusiastic Brethren. They are entitled to your gratitude and plaudits. I desire to place on record my gratitude to them for the assistance given to me in bringing into fellowship with us those of our Brethren who were unaffiliated or under suspension for non-payment of dues. We have met with marked success, and continued efforts in this line will remove what I consider a stain on the institution. The fact of good men and good citizens not surrendering their demits and affiliating with our Lodges; the fact of respectable, moral men, who are held in high estimation by their neighbors, guilty of no crime unless you call poverty a crime, being under the ban of suspension for non-payment of dues, gives the world an opportunity of unjustly criticizing our beloved Order. This state of affairs is a reflection on our boasted claim as a benefactor to the human race.

Let us awake and see to it that the Craft does not lose the enviable position it now occupies as a great moral institution wherein are inculcated the true principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Inability to pay dues should never forfeit the right to membership and fellowship. Our charity should begin at home, and with our poor Brethren. Place them in good standing on your books, and allow their earnings to go to their wives and children for bread. The Lodge is the place for such a brother; he needs our assistance and advice, and we need him so as to remind us of our obligations. Don't forget the unaffiliated, as according to one of our periodicals "He is a Mason and barring some little pique or petty fault, is worthy of membership. Let your heart go out to him in a Brotherly way and ask him to come back to the fold. Masonry needs all worthy Masons and all Masons need Masonry. We cannot live unto ourselves, nor can we die unto ourselves. We must not be selfish; we must be broad and liberal." This is the work in which the D.D.G.M.'s have been engaged. It is the true solution of the question of unaffiliation with which the reports of all the Grand Lodges teem

year after year. These brethren are not criminals and must not be treated as such. We are on the right track and with the Divine assistance, will persevere until every good, moral-living man in the Province is within our doors, and then we can make good our claim that Masonry stands for civilization, is the friend of humanity and teaches loyalty to home, to country and to God.

Before leaving this subject I desire to note the valuable addition we have made to our membership during the year in the persons of clergymen of all the religious denominations. I find them in every lodge filling all the important offices, even that of W. M. No better nor more acceptable rulers can be placed over our lodges to teach and instruct the brethren. Masonry is the handmaid of the church, and while not claiming to be a religion, still its teachings prepare its adherents for admission to, and fellowship in, the Church of the living God. "Freemasonry is not a religion, though it stands at the threshold of her temple; it is not the church, though it is her most potent friend; it is not a missionary, though it often proves a Christian pioneer." It is very satisfactory, therefore, to notice the interest our reverend brethren are taking in craft work. I trust many more of the cloth will knock at our doors for admission and assist us in drawing plans and designs on the moral tracing board for the guidance of the brethren.

MEETING PLACE OF GRAND LODGE.

As there is a notice on the paper relating to the above subject, I desire to disclaim any intention of interfering with the freedom of discussion on this or any other proper subject which may at any time be brought before Grand Lodge. My object is to give the brethren the result of my reading on this important subject. It cannot be denied that the members of the Grand Lodge have year after year suffered inconvenience in the matter of accommodation while attending our annual sessions. We should not tolerate this condition of affairs: our annual reunions should be made as pleasant as possible for our members; no other interests should be considered. I am of the opinion that a small committee should be appointed to report on the accommodation which can be furnished by the several places proposed for the next meeting. I take the liberty of submitting a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Iowa which

will be found of great practical benefit and commend it to your careful consideration.

"The Grand Lodge in designating the place for holding its session will require the following points to be satisfactorily established by the brother nominating a place: First. The place shall be readily accessible by railroad. Second. The brethren shall be able to furnish a good, convenient and accessible hall for the session of Grand Lodge. Third. The place shall possess ample hotel accommodation for all the members of Grand Lodge."

GENERAL MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

Some ten years ago this Grand Lodge affiliated with the General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada. This association was organized and is carried on for the purpose of protecting the craft from the tramp fraud, and as a result of its efforts and our affiliation many thousands of dollars have been saved to the craft of this country. It will be interesting to the craft to know that through the system adopted by the association every impostor and unworthy applicant is reported to the Secretary of the General Relief Association in New York that during the past year some 239 impostors were discovered, and that since the organization of the society in 1885, 2529 cases of unworthy applicants have been published in the monthly circulars sent to each lodge in the jurisdiction. This organized protection of our funds is a work worthy of the support of every jurisdiction on the continent, and the fact that the annual expenditure for the affiliation of this Grand Lodge is only \$120 and the annual savings estimated at \$4,000, amply justifies our continuance as affiliates and should be an example to other Grand Lodges on the continent which have not as yet taken advantage of the protective system, which the craft enjoys, by the operations of so useful an organization.

THE BALLOT.

I now approach a subject to which I have given considerable attention during the past year, viz., the abuse of the ballot. My attention was drawn to four or five lodges in our jurisdiction which at one time ranked among our more prosperous lodges, now it would be in the best interests of Masonry to call in the charters.

For years not a candidate has been accepted, although many propositions were presented. Bickering and contention take the place of peace and harmony, and respectable members withdraw from the lodge or cease to attend. What is the cause of this deplorable state of affairs? I am given to understand that the principal causes are, unrecognized ambition for office; rejection of a friend who desires admittance or a desire to get even with the new Master. Unfortunately, brethren imbued with such base motives work in the dark and keep their own counsel. I became aware of unguarded speeches made by a couple of brethren who had determined to adopt the "rule or ruin" policy and caused charges to be preferred against them as the craft can well afford to part company with such characters. In another case I took into consideration the short time the offending brother was in the craft and was content in sending for him and pointing out the dangerous position which he occupied, and that on his future conduct depended his retention or removal therefrom. I am aware that the ballot is a sacred privilege entrusted to the brethren, and a conscientious exercise of the same cannot be questioned or enquired into. It is the safeguard of the institution. It is a Mason's right to exercise the privilege without interference from any one, responsible only to his own conscience, but it is well for him to know that he forgets his manhood and violates his obligation when the trust is exercised in a vindictive and cowardly spirit. Revenge, jealousy and fancied wrongs should not govern the deposit of a ballot and thereby endanger the peace and harmony of a lodge. I have a personal knowledge where a couple of brethren were thus enabled to almost wreck a lodge, but when concessions were granted them, for some mysterious reason the blackballing ceased and candidates were admitted. For such conduct no remedy exists unless the offenders have an awakening and a complete change of heart. I would commend to you the advice of an illustrious brother on this subject: "Rather let love rule in your hearts that the grandeur and loftiness alone of human character may sway your actions and keep in subjection your baser passions. Let your hearts beat responsive to the teachings of Freemasonry in all their glory and heaven-born influence so that every question which comes before the tribunal of the ballot may be

disposed of justly and honorably, although it be done in the exercise of an unalienable right, a landmark upon which no law can trench. I speak with earnestness of heart on the subject, knowing the frailties of our poor human nature, but speaking alone to its highest and noblest impulses, and asking you to ever keep in remembrance that golden rule, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN CANADA.

The craft in this jurisdiction, and, I may add, in this Dominion, is to be heartily congratulated on the completion of the great work to which our worthy Past Grand Master, M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, has devoted years of labor and research, and the outlay for which must be beyond ordinary calculation. The "History of Freemasonry in Canada," two large volumes, is a work of such magnitude that it is far in advance of any poor words of praise that I could bestow upon it for its remarkable excellence in every single respect. Suffice it to say that no Mason who loves his country and the Ancient Craft should be without it, and I venture to express the hope that the brethren of this jurisdiction, particularly, will be quick to show their appreciation of the self-sacrificing efforts which have given to Masonic literature a contribution of such historical value and of which the eminent historian of the British Craft, Bro. W. J. Hughan, who reviewed it, says: "This history has no equal of the class either as respects its magnitude, its originality, its interest and attractiveness, its literary skill or its conspicuous success. Many of the author's extraordinary finds and well-directed researches, if fully narrated, would surprise even those most familiar with his indomitable perseverance and unwavering persistence in getting at the foundation facts of the subject. A monument to his untiring industry, persistent researches, self-sacrifice, and a never-failing enthusiasm which has placed in the hands of the craft universal, and especially his own Grand Lodge, the finest volumes of the kind ever published in connection with the history of the Masonic fraternity."

I do not consider it out of place to refer to a thoughtful act of Past Grand Master John Ross Robertson, which at the time brought our Grand Lodge prominently before the public. The first letter to take advan-

tage of the penny ocean postage which came into force on Saturday, the twenty-fifth day of December, 1898, at midnight, was posted by our talented brother as the representative of the United Grand Lodge of England, and was addressed to the Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge at London, England. The letter was of a fraternal character and alluded to the love which Canadian Masons have for the dear Mother Grand Lodge, and concluded with the words, "As this new enterprise by our respective Governments will surely multiply the written words that cross the ocean, so may it strengthen the kindly feeling we have for the Fatherland and for the myriad of brethren who look up to the great and good Grand Lodge of England as their Mother Grand Lodge." He certainly expressed the feelings of the craft in Ontario, and I consider his action worthy of record in our proceedings.

GRAND LODGE OF WASHINGTON.

During the past year the fraternal relations existing between the various Grand Lodges in the United States received a great strain in consequence of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in recognizing the establishment of another Grand Lodge (composed of colored men) within the borders of that State, thereby dealing a blow to the established doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction. This action, if approved of by other Grand Lodges, would give a standing to men made in lodges which have been considered clandestine. Several of the Grand Lodges suspended Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, while all of the Grand Lodges disapproved of the recognition given to irregular and clandestine Masons. The correspondence carried on between M. W. Bro. William H. Upton, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and several of the Grand Lodges on the subject, was conducted with much feeling and bitterness, which is greatly to be regretted. On the 22nd of February, 1899, I was honored by a communication from M. W. Bro. Upton, enclosing a printed copy of the report of his Grand Lodge, wherein the Grand Lodge of Colored Men were recognized, and asking for my opinion and for fraternal counsel on the subject, to which I replied as follows:

Toronto, Feby. 22nd, 1899.

Hon. W. W. Upton, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington, Walla Walla, Wash., U. S. A.:

Dear Sir and M. W. Brother,—

I have your favor of the 20th inst. enclosing copy of a pamphlet which shows the action taken by the Grand Lodge of Washington at its last Annual Meeting relating to a communication received by your Grand Lodge from certain persons claiming to be Free and Accepted Masons of African descent; also a copy of a letter of January 4th, 1899, addressed by you to the several Grand Masters within the United States.

You asked my opinion upon certain matters mentioned by you, and also honor me with a request for fraternal counsel as to the advice you should give to your Grand Lodge in the matter. I quite agree with you that the questions raised are of the gravest character, and for that reason, while giving you my personal views, I prefer to send all papers to the Grand Lodge over which I have the honor to preside, and which will meet on the nineteenth day of July next.

Aside from any views I may have regarding the legitimate standing of Prince Hall and his associates and of African Lodge No. 459, constituted under a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, I have strong doubts as to the right or power of African Lodge to constitute other Lodges or to form Grand Lodges.

I regret exceedingly the action of your Grand Lodge in countenancing the establishment of lodges in your State which do not and will not owe allegiance to your Grand Lodge as the sole Masonic authority therein. I am at a loss to understand how our Grand Lodge can recognize more than one Grand Lodge in your State, viz., the Grand Lodge of which you are the distinguished Representative. Our Grand Lodge placed itself on record on this question on the 3rd day of July, 1871, when a letter was received from E. C. Cooper, secretary of a Lodge at Chatham, in this Province, and also a petition from J. J. Moore and others belonging to a lodge in the City of Toronto, in this Province, both said to be holding Warrants from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York (colored) desiring to surrender their Warrants, and affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Canada. Grand Lodge unanimously adopted the following report:

‘The Board of General Purposes, to whom the M. W. the Grand Master referred the communication of E. C. Cooper, of Chatham, dated 24th May, 1871, and the petition of J. J. Moore, Wm. Harrison and others, beg leave to report: That the R. W. the Grand Secretary be instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter and petition above referred to, and to state in reply thereto that the Grand Lodge of Canada is in communication and friendly intercourse with the M. W. the Honorable Fraternity, of A. F. & A. Masons of the M. W. Grand

Lodge of the State of New York and cannot recognize any other body claiming to be a Grand Lodge within the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge or any body assuming to derive its authority from any such unrecognised body.'

"That any application for admission to our privileges, or jurisdiction by those referred to in the said letter or in the said petition, must be made by the personal application of each candidate to a regular lodge, in accordance with the course pointed out in the Constitution.' "

The above report clearly sets out my views on the subject and I am positive that Grand Lodge will not recede therefrom in any one particular, nor will the fact that your Grand Lodge approves of and countenances the existence of another Grand Lodge in your State, change my views on the subject. It will therefore require no stretch of imagination to predict the complications which will in all likelihood arise in consequence of the action of your Grand Lodge. As you ask my fraternal advice on the subject, I honestly say that I regret the action taken by your Grand Lodge, and would gladly welcome a reconsideration on your part of the subject. While deploring the harsh language which you claim to have been used by several of the Grand Lodges when discussing this question, still I am convinced that you have not fully appreciated the motives of those who have opposed you in this matter. I trust you will accept these remarks as emanating from one who has the warmest and most fraternal regard for you and your Grand Lodge, and whose earnest desire is to see harmony restored and the fraternal intercourse renewed between your Grand Lodge and the other Grand Lodges of the United States of America.

Again assuring you of my fraternal regards, I have the honor to be,

"Yours fraternally,

"E. T. MALONE."

It was my intention to submit all the papers to Grand Lodge for an expression of opinion, but I do not consider it necessary to do so in the light of recent events. A few days ago I received a circular letter from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington, dated June 19th, 1899, addressed to all sister Grand Lodges wherein is set out a report presented to that Grand Body by a committee of seven Past Grand Masters of the jurisdiction on the 14th day of June last, which, upon motion, was almost unanimously approved of. The report is temperate in language and reflects great credit on the illustrious brethren who formed the committee. Suffice it to say that the clauses or resolutions embodied in the original report which have been so strongly objected to by the various sister Grand Lodges are now repealed and fraternal greetings are

sent to all the brethren throughout the world. We join with them in the prayer, "May brotherly love prevail and every moral and Masonic virtue cement us." I trust that the Grand Lodges which have withdrawn fraternal intercourse will now renew it. I have deposited all papers in connection therewith with the Grand Secretary, and they will be submitted to you if required.

BY-LAWS.

I have during the year settled and approved of by-laws and amendments to by-laws of a great number of lodges, a list of which will be presented to you by the Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS.

At the request of the Grand Masters of the several Grand Lodges hereinafter mentioned, I have recommended the following named brethren for appointment as Grand Representatives near this Grand Lodge:

R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island and Providence, in the place of V. W. Bro. Robert Lewis, resigned;

R. W. Bro. A. B. Munson, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee;

R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, G. S. W., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine;

R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, for a further period of five years;

R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, G. J. W., as Representtative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, in place of R. W. Bro. Thos. Sargant, relieved of office;

R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, D. D. G. M., as Representative of Grand Lodge of Alabama, in place of R. W. Bro. Judge Dartnell, deceased;

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of Grand Lodge of Nebraska, in place of V. W. Bro. C. W. Browne, relieved on account of physical inability to attend to Masonic duties;

R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of Grand Lodge of Illinois, in place of R. W. Bro. J. E. D'Avignon, resigned;

The above-named brethren will present their credentials and be received with the proper honors.

I have appointed the following-named brethren Grand Representatives for this Grand Lodge near the several Grand Lodges hereinafter named:

R. W. Bro. A. S. Meyers, P. D. D. G. M., near the Grand Lodge of Tennessee;

W. Bro. G. W. Millener, near the Grand Lodge of New York.

Bro. Jos. G. Villa, near the Grand Lodge of Cuba, in place of Bro. Boada, deceased;

M. W. Bro. H. de LeHaie, near the Grand Lodge of Belgium;

R. W. Bro. Jas. R. Killian, near the Grand Lodge of Colorado, in place of M. W. Bro. B. L. Carr, deceased.

R. W. Bro. Ira A. Chase, near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in place of M. W. Bro. Andrew Burton, deceased.

I desire to draw the attention of Grand Lodge to the fact that some of the brethren act as Grand Representative of more than one Grand Lodge. As we have several distinguished brethren who desire the honor of representing a Grand Lodge, there can certainly be no valid reason advanced why a brother should be permitted to retain the representation of more than one Grand Lodge. I contend that several of these positions should now be declared vacant and filled by new appointments, so that no brother shall hold more than one appointment. I desire an expression of opinion from Grand Lodge on this subject.

Owing to the removal of R. W. Bro. C. L. Merritt, D. D. G. M., of Wilson District, No. 6, to the Province of New Brunswick, shortly after the close of the last session of Grand Lodge, I had great difficulty in finding a qualified brother who was willing to take charge for me. R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, P. D. D. G. M., came to my relief, and, notwithstanding continuous business demands upon his time, he was able to bring his task to a successful conclusion. Grand Lodge owes him a debt of gratitude for the prosperous state of the district.

Having received the resignation of R. W. Bro. Thos. Sargant as a member of the Board of General Purposes, I appointed R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins to fill the vacancy thus created.

DEDICATIONS.

During the year I was unable to personally take charge of the dedication services held in several lodges. I, however, commissioned the D. D. G. M's. of the respective districts to act for me. I regret exceedingly the disappointment I caused the members of Fidelity Lodge, Port Perry, who had made preparations for my reception. They are aware of the important business call which prevented my attendance. R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, G. J. W., acted in my place and dedicated the lodge room.

On the 27th October, 1899, R. W. Bro. W. Irwin, D. D. G. M., dedicated the rooms of Port Elgin Lodge, No. 429.

On the 21st June, 1899, the Deputy Grand Master dedicated the rooms of Comber Lodge. I exceedingly regret my inability to accept the invitation to attend.

On the 14th November, 1898, R. W. Bro. Richard Mills dedicated the room of Powassan Lodge. 443.

DISPENSATIONS.

Requests for dispensations for various purposes have poured in on me during the year. With a couple of exceptions, for which good and sufficient reasons were given, all requests have been refused. The prerogative of the Grand Master in this respect should be seldom exercised. Greater benefits will enure to the craft by a strict compliance with the requirements of the constitution. As Grand Master, I have no power to suffer any departure from the rules and regulations governing the qualifications of candidates for our mysteries.

I have issued no dispensations for new lodges. The application received for a new lodge at North Williamsburg, to be called Victoria Lodge, has been referred by me to the Board of General Purposes. I am not in favor of planting new lodges in a territory fully occupied.

CORNER STONES.

During the past year I have acceded to all requests for the services of Grand Lodge in laying the corner stones of religious, educational and public institutions. This is a work that belongs exclusively to the craft. The ceremony is full of meaning to the craftsman, and with an explanation of the symbolism of the corner stone can

be made very interesting to the general public. To our order alone is reserved the right to assist in the building of institutions, "devoted to the moral and intellectual advancement of the age." I have at all times been attended by the Grand Secretary, whose services have been invaluable. I have taken advantage of these occasions to impress on my hearers the mission of Freemasonry, its benefit to mankind and the strong ties that bind together the church and the craft.

On August 9th, 1890, I was honored with a call from the municipal corporation of the city of St. Thomas, and with the assistance of the Deputy Grand Master, the D. D. G. M., the G. S. W., Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and a large concourse of brethren, I laid the corner stone of the new City Hall. Too much praise cannot be given to R. W. Bro. W. B. Doherty, the City Clerk, for the perfect arrangement of all details in connection with the ceremony. In the evening we were entertained at a banquet in the Grand Central Hotel, tendered by the Mayor and Council of the city.

At Picton, on the 11th of August last, I was assisted by the D. D. G. M., the Grand Secretary, the Grand Chaplain and a large number of brethren not only from Picton but from the surrounding cities, towns and villages. It is needless to state that every kindness and attention was shown to us by the members of the church and craft, and it was most gratifying to note the presence of so many Methodist clergymen who are members of our order. The visit was one of special interest to me, as the Bay of Quinte district and where Picton is situated, was the earliest seat of Methodism in Canada, and as the founder of Methodism, the Rev. John Wesley, was an enthusiastic Mason. He was initiated in Downpatrick Lodge, No. 36, Ireland, on 30th October, 1738, while his brother, the Rev. Samuel Wesley, the sweet singer of Methodism, was at one time Grand Organist of the Grand Lodge of England.

On the 30th day of August, 1898, R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, D. D. G. M., represented me in laying the corner stone of the new Central Public School at Rat Portage.

At Marmora, on the 13th June, assisted by the D. D. G. M., the Grand Secretary, the G. J. W., the Grand Pursuivant, and Bro. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, ex-Premier of the Dominion, I laid the corner stone of the Presby-

terian Church. Addresses of welcome were tendered to me by the Town Council, Marmora Lodge, and by the Rev. Mr. Inkster. Our visit to this prosperous part of the province will be long remembered.

At Prescott, on the 14th June, 1899, R. W. Bro. Rook, D. D. G. M., as my representative laid the corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church.

OFFICIAL AND FRATERNAL VISITS.

During my official year I have visited every lodge (except two) to which I had been invited. I have been highly honored and favored by my brethren. I have been at all times received with love and loyalty. In making these visits I was not only performing my duty as head of the craft, but thoroughly enjoying the company of my brethren. I have at all times endeavored to impress on the brethren their duty to the craft and to one another, and the responsibility which rests on each individual to so live and act as to reflect credit on the institution. I trust that good may be the outcome of our intercourse with one another, and that I may be fortunate enough to retain the respect of my brethren of every rank and station. It will not be necessary to give the details of each visit, as I carry with me the most pleasant and agreeable recollections of all.

The lodges I visited are as follows: Georgina, 343; Zetland, 326; Alpha, 384; Jerusalem, 31; Strict Observance, 27; Northern Light, 93; Ionic, 25 (Toronto); Zeta, 410; Wilson, 86; Ionic, 239 (Brampton); Rehoboam, 65; St. George, 367; King Solomon, 43; Oxford 76; Acacia, 430; Ashlar, 247; St. Andrews, 16; Corinthian, 96; Kerr, 230; Ontario, 26; Hope, 114; Occident, 346; and Tecumseh, 144.

On the 16th March, 1899, I attended the District Lodge of Instruction held at Barrie by R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, D. D. G. M. There were over 125 brethren in attendance, every lodge in the district but one being represented. The almost faultless exemplification of the work by three of the lodges reflects credit not only on the participants, but on the energetic and talented D. D. G. M. I was greatly impressed with the accurate knowledge of Masonry generally which the candidates displayed on their examinations. I was accompanied on my visit by R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, D. D. G. M., Toronto District, No. 11.

In response to the courteous invitation of R. W. Bro. James Evans, D. D. G. M. of the Ontario District, I attended a District Lodge of Instruction at Port Hope. The attendance of delegates from all parts of the district was unusually large, the exemplification of the several degrees and the knowledge imparted proved of great benefit, and the event will be marked by a renewed interest in Masonry throughout the whole district. The D. D. G. M. has been a faithful, painstaking officer.

I regret exceedingly my inability to attend the District Lodge of Instruction held by R. W. Bro. Hillier, D. D. G. M. of Erie District. I learn from the Deputy Grand Master, who was in attendance, that it was a success in every particular.

On the third of September, 1898, I was tendered a loyal reception by the brethren of Georgina Lodge, No. 343, a lodge in which I have taken a deep interest since its removal to the city of Toronto, and which now ranks as one of the strongest and most progressive in the district.

My Mother Lodge Zetland honored me with a reception on the 23rd day of September last. As the fame of Zetland is so well known throughout the province, it can be taken for granted that the meeting was successfully conducted and all visitors royally entertained. Among those who honored the lodge by their attendance were M. W. Bros. Wm. Gibson and Hugh Murray; R. W. Bro. Colin Postlethwaite, G. S. W., R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. James Glanville, D. D. G. M., and all the Past Grand Lodge Officers and the W. M's. of the city.

On the second of November, 1898, twenty lodges of the city of Toronto and adjoining locality assembled under the auspices of St. Andrew's, No. 16, the mother lodge of the city lodges, and tendered a reception and banquet to your Grand Master. Over five hundred brethren assembled in the banquet room, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. I can never forget the kindness of my brethren in Toronto District: their words of encouragement and promises of support inspired me with courage for the work of the year. I was attended by the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Junior Warden, and the two District Masters of the Toronto District. W. Bro. E. B. Brown, of Ionic, proved an ideal chairman.

On the 29th day of September I attended a special meeting of The Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, when a banquet was given in honor of my predecessor, M. W. Bro. William Gibson. At this meeting the Deputy Grand Master, M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray and J. M. Gibson and the Grand Secretary presented the guests the evening with the Grand Lodge testimonial and an illuminated address. The preparations made by the Barton brethren were of an elaborate character, and demonstrated the high estimation in which the M. W. Bro. is held by his brethren. A deputation from the Buffalo lodges attended to express their esteem and admiration of the illustrious brother.

On the 28th of November I attended a banquet given by the brethren of Stratford to R. W. John E. Harding on his departure from the town, where he had resided so long. He has done much to build up the craft in South Huron District. Our distinguished brother has been honored by his sovereign by an appointment to the vacant Judgeship in the County of Victoria, a position for which he is eminently qualified. We offer our congratulations on the high honor conferred on him, and trust that he may be long spared to adorn the bench of this province.

A very cordial and warm reception was given to me by the London brethren on the 8th day of February last at their At-Home held in the Grand Opera House. The function was most successful from every standpoint and was thoroughly enjoyed by several hundred ladies and gentlemen who were in attendance. The loyalty and hospitality of the craft in London are so well known that I need not describe at length the occurrences of the evening and the kindness and attention paid to your Grand Master.

Canada's Capital City, in which we are now assembled, whose great growth and prosperity has attracted the notice of enterprising men from all parts of the Dominion, has within its limits some of our most prosperous lodges. I was the guest of these lodges on the 28th day of February last, and was afforded an opportunity of meeting with several of Canada's talented sons. Every province and territory of this fair Dominion was represented at the meeting. It was a great honor and pleasure to meet with Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters and other illustrious brethren from all the sister

Grand Lodges of this country. I heard eloquent speeches from eloquent men, and felt that it was good to become acquainted with brethren who hold leading positions in the public affairs of the country. Among the distinguished brethren present were M. W. Bro. T. B. Flint, M. P., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; Past Grand Masters John Ross Robertson, M. P., and W. R. White, Q. C., of this Grand Lodge; J. V. Ellis, M. P., of St. John, New Brunswick; Hon. D. C. Fraser, M. P., of Nova Scotia; Hon. John Yeo, Senator, of Prince Edward Island; C. N. Bell, Manitoba; Sir Mackenzie Bowell, ex-Premier of the Dominion; N. F. Davin, of Northwest Territories; G. R. Maxwell, M. P., of British Columbia; J. G. Rutherford, M. P., of Manitoba; J. McAllister, M. P., of Nova Scotia; E. L. Howard, of Quebec; Dr. Landerkin, M. P., and all the leading Masons of the Ottawa Valley: altogether the gathering was one long to be remembered by the craft.

On the following evening, February 29th, I attended a gathering in Zetland Lodge, Toronto, which proved of great interest to Toronto Masons. For Masonic enthusiasm, perfect ritualism, well-regulated and ordered proceedings, Zetland Lodge holds an eminent and uniquely prominent position in craft circles. All this was plainly in evidence on the evening in question, when all the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, with the exception of M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, who was prevented by illness from attending, took charge of the ceremony of initiating a candidate with M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray as W. M. The work was correctly and impressively rendered, and drew forth praise and applause from all present.

Another feature of the evening was the presence and reception of M. W. Bro. W. A. Sutherland, of Rochester, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, and V. W. Bro. J. Hungerford Smith, his Grand Senior Deacon. I had the honor of welcoming both of these distinguished brethren. Grand Master Sutherland charmed his hearers with his eloquence and easily won his way to our hearts. He concluded an eloquent address by trusting that the two flags that were entwined on the wall behind him—the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes—would always be in front for the prosperity and civilization of the world and against the enemies of

liberty and civilization. He can always rely on a rousing reception from the craft in Canada.

On the tenth day of June last, in response to a courteous and fraternal invitation from M. W. Bro. Sutherland, and accompanied by M. W. Bros. A. A. Stevenson, Wm. Gibson and V. W. Bro. John A. Cowan, I visited the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, where we were received by the representatives of 739 lodges, with a membership of over 98,000 Masons. I cannot describe our grand and enthusiastic reception, nor can I forget the eloquent terms in which the Grand Master welcomed and introduced us to his Grand Lodge. I appreciate the thoughtfulness of the Grand Lodge Choir in welcoming us with the songs of our country. The strains of "The Land of the Maple," "The Death of Nelson," and "Annie Laurie" were sweet to me and the brethren who accompanied me when we stood among people of another nation. Anglo-Saxon feeling and sentiment were strongly in evidence, and it made our hearts leap and the warm blood course through our veins when the names of our Beloved Sovereign and His Royal Highness the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England were received with a hurricane of applause. It is unnecessary to inform you, my brethren, that your Grand Lodge was ably and eloquently represented by M. W. Bros. Stevenson and Gibson, whom I was very fortunate in having with me. Their responses on your behalf were able efforts and proved them worthy and loyal sons of a nation on whose dominion the sun never sets. I trust that we may have an interchange of fraternal visits with the Grand Lodge of New York, and "May our friendships last as long as love doth last and be stronger than death is strong."

It is within the recollection of all the pleasure given us last year by the visit of the Grand Master and officers of the Grand Lodge of Michigan. I was unable to return the visit last January, when their Grand Lodge met in Port Huron. I would request the Grand Secretary to make the necessary preparations for the return visit next January, when the Grand Lodge of Michigan will hold its annual meeting in the city of Detroit. I can assure you of a royal reception. I have had pleasant experiences of the hospitality of the Michigan brethren and am satisfied that you will enjoy your visit.

DECISIONS.

I have given a great number of rulings during this year, but as the majority of them are governed by the Book of Constitution and opinions of my predecessors, I deem it unnecessary to burden you with a recital of the same.

I desire, however, an expression of opinion from Grand Lodge upon the following decisions given by me :

1. I decided that it was improper for a Worshipful Master to pass the ballot three times on the application of a candidate for initiation ; also that it was improper for a Worshipful Master to allow members of the lodge to discuss the merits and qualifications of a candidate on whose petition the ballot had been taken. No discussion should be allowed, as thereby the secrecy of the ballot is violated. I censured a Worshipful Master for a violation of duty under above circumstances.

2. I decided that the practice, which for the first time has come to my notice, of initiating two or more candidates into Masonry at the same time, is decidedly improper, and directed the D. D. G. M. of the London District to put a stop to same.

3. There is affiliated with Doric Lodge, No. 382, a worthy brother, who at one time held the rank of P. M., subordinate lodge of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. The brother was healed on his own application several years ago. This is a case which should be treated as in the cases of those who were subsequently healed, the rank of Past Master having been conferred upon those who held that rank in the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. He applied to Doric Lodge to return him as a P. M. to Grand Lodge, which request has not been complied with, on the ground that no provision was made for conferring on or retaining rank by those who were healed prior to the final adjustment of 1895. On the matter being submitted to me I came to the conclusion that as there is a doubt with regard to the brother's case, Grand Lodge should consider the point and see that justice was done in the matter. I recommend that the Board of General Purposes bring in a report in favor of placing the brother in question and all others

similarly situated in enjoyment of this rank which in all fairness they are entitled to.

4. I decided that the word "freeborn" in our ceremonies does not exclude "illegitimate persons"; that the expression should be confined to "slaves," as the benefits of Freemasonry were not intended to be extended to those who were so shackled as to be unable to exercise freedom and independence.

5. I decided that the loss of a thumb and first finger of left hand does not debar a person from becoming a Mason.

GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA.

On the 29th day of June last I received a communication from Virginia asking for a reply to an invitation which had been forwarded last year by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, to the Grand Lodge of Canada, to take part in the ceremonies to be held at Mount Vernon in December next, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Bro. George Washington. All the Grand Lodges of the United States will be represented at this important meeting. Masonic services at the tomb will be conducted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, aided by the representatives of the other Grand Lodges. The President of the United States will be in attendance, and will address the Masons and the general public. I forwarded all communications on the subject to the Grand Secretary, with instructions to submit the same for your consideration.

Such is the account of my stewardship. I have endeavored to faithfully and conscientiously discharge the duties of the honorable position to which you elected me. I have endeavored to the best of my ability to fulfil all promises made to you a year ago. If errors have been made, deal with them in a charitable spirit, as I can assure you that in all my actions I have been guided solely by my sense of duty to the craft and with the desire to wound no heart and to give offense to no one. If I have been successful in my mission I must not forget the unselfish devotion and assistance of all the Grand Lodge officers and my deputies in the various districts. I desire to publicly express my indebtedness to the

Grand Secretary for his great and valuable assistance during the year. He has been my guide, philosopher and friend, and happy is the Grand Lodge in possessing such an efficient and intelligent officer. I trust that his services may be at the disposal of the brethren for many years to come. To my brethren I desire to impress on them their duties. On individual conduct and effort depend the maintenance of the high standard of Masonry. The world will judge of us as we conduct ourselves in the daily walks of life. While never losing sight of the obligations we have entered into with one another, we must not forget that it is our duty to take an active interest in everything that tends to the betterment and elevation of mankind. To quote from a Masonic periodical, "The trouble with all of us is that we are Lodge Room Masons, Lodge Night Masons, and not Every Day Masons. Masonry is for our morning thought and our evening meditations, and should be mixed with every action of the day. We are not to wear our Masonry on our sleeves for show; then it would become offensive and bring us censure. Masonry should be real and shewn in cheerfulness of disposition, the freedom from harsh words, the forbearance for others, the willing help rendered to those who need a word of comfort, and our own good deportment. These are Masonic charms more valuable than jewelled decorations; they prove a man to be an Every Day Mason." Let us prove to the world that we have a mission, and that we find a joy in doing good not only to those within our circle but to our fellow-men.

"Highest aim and true endeavor
Earnest work with patient might
Hoping, trusting, singing ever,
Battling bravely for the right;
Loving God, all men forgiving,
Helping weaker feet to stand
These will make a life worth living,
Make it noble, make it grand."

Yes, there's a joy in doing good
The selfish never know:
A draught so deep, so rich and pure.
It sets the heart aglow;
A draft so exquisitely rare,
It thrills the soul with bliss,
And lifts it to a heavenly world,
Or makes a heaven of this."

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes to report thereon.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Annual Communication at Ottawa, 19th July, 1899.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,

I beg to present to Grand Lodge my annual report containing an account of all moneys received by me during the year and the expenditures made, with returns of subordinate lodges as at 24th June, 1899, and ledger balances at 31st May, 1899, together with, by instruction of the W. W. the Grand Master, a record of the special communications summoned, dispensations issued, by-laws and amendments thereto approved, Grand Representatives appointed, and other official acts of the M.W. the Grand Master.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

The receipts and expenditure from 1st June, 1898, to the 31st May, 1899, have been as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Certificates	\$ 2,972 00
Dues	11,814 60
Fees	1,675 50
Dispensations.....	182 00
Constitutions and Ceremonies	475 50
Warrants	80 00
Commutations of Dues	290 00
Past Masters' Certificates	10 00
Asylum Fund Interest	419 00
General Fund Interest	3,077 32
Miscellaneous.....	45 00

EXPENDITURE.

Salary of Grand Secretary.....	\$ 2,000 0
Salary of Grand Secretary's Assistant.....	800 00
Salary of Grand Treasurer to 30th Sept....	100 00
Salary of Stenographer	300 00
Rent of Grand Secretary's Office	175 00
Grand Secretary, balance for incidentals to 31st May, 1898 ..	58 75
Grand Secretary, advance for incidentals.	500 00
Expenses of the Board of General Purposes	639 60
Expenses of meeting of Grand Lodge at Toronto	225 62
Expenses entertainment members of Grand Lodge of Michigan..	47 45
Committee on Foreign Correspondence ...	100 00
The Times Printing Co., Printing.....	81 50
The Spectator Printing Co., on account of Printing	1,400 00
Copp, Clark & Co., on account of Printing.	200 00
J. Eastwood & Co., Stationery.....	59 80
Chairman of Committee on Benevolence for Postages.....	15 00
Masonic Relief Association, U. S. and Canada ..	113 00
Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond.	50 00
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, travelling expenses two years	1,000 00
M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on account travelling expenses	250 00
Expenses investigation Frederick Lodge, 217	16 50
Testimonial to M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson....	300 00
Repairs to Grand Master's Regalia.....	8 75

Carried forward\$21,040 92

Carried forward\$ 8,440 97

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$21,040 92	<i>Brought forward</i>	\$ 8,440 97
<hr/>		Bruce, Burton & Bruce,	
		opinion on debentures	15 00
		Expenses meeting of	
		Committee on Audit	
		and Finance.....	35 15
		Insurance on Grand	
<hr/>		Lodge Regalia . . .	17 50
		Expenses of Benevo-	
		lence Investigation ..	454 70
		Orders on the Fund of	
<hr/>		Benevolence	9,830 00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	\$21,040 92	Total.. . . .	\$18,793 32

SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

By direction of the M. W., the Grand Master, especial communications of Grand Lodge were held as follows, viz.:

On the 8th August, 1898, at St. Thomas, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new City Hall, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 11th August, 1898, at Picton, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the First Methodist Church, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 30th August, 1898, at Rat Portage, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Public Central School, R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, D. D. G. M., officiating.

On the 13th June, 1899, at Marmora, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Presbyterian Church, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 14th June, 1899, at Maxville, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Presbyterian Church, R. W. Bro. Geo. Rook, D. D. G. M., officiating.

DEDICATIONS.

By instructions of the M. W. the Grand Master, the following halls have been dedicated for craft purposes since the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, namely:

Port Elgin Lodge, No. 429, Port Elgin, 27th October, 1898, by R. W. Bro. Wm. Irwin, D. D. G. M.

Powassan Lodge, No. 443, Powassan, 14th November, 1898, by R. W. Bro. Richard Mills, D. D. G. M.

Parvaim Lodge, No. 395, Comber, 21st June, 1899, by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, D. G. M.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 428, Port Perry, 27th June, 1899, by R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, G. J. W.

DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW LODGES.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge Dispensations were granted for the formation of the following lodges, namely:

The Lake of the Woods Lodge, Rat Portage, Algoma District, No. 17, 27th July, 1898.

Granite Lodge, Fort Frances, Algoma District, No. 17, 27th July, 1898.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master, R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, of Hamilton, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, in place of R. W. Bro. G. H. F. Dartnell, deceased.

R. W. Bro. F. F. Manley, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Belgium.

R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, of Ottawa, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, in place of R. W. Bro. J. E. D'Avignon, resigned.

R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine in place of R. W. Bro. John W. Murton, deceased.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, in place of V. W. Bro. C. W. Brown, relieved of office, he being physically disabled.

R. W. Bro. Henry A. Collins, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, in place of V. W. Bro. Robert Lewis, resigned.

R. W. Bro. A. B. Munson, of London, has been re-appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, that Grand Lodge having resumed the practice of exchanging Representatives.

R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, of Kincardine, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, for a further term of five years.

R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, of Peterboro, has been ap-

pointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, in place of R. W. Bro. Thomas Sargent.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Colorado, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed R. W. Bro. James R. Killian, of Walsenburg, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Colorado, in place of M. W. Bro. Byron L. Carr, deceased.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of the Island of Cuba, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed W. Bro. Jose G. Villa, of Havana, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba, in place of W. Bro. Ramon Marti Boada, deceased.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of New Hampshire, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed R. W. Bro. Ira A. Chase, of Bristol, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in place of M. W. Bro. Andrew Bunton, deceased.

Upon the recommendation, and at the special request of the M. W. the Grand Master of New York, W. Bro. Geo. W. Millener, of Tonawanda, has been appointed our Representative near the Grand Lodge of New York, in place of W. Bro. Sydney F. Walker.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Tennessee, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed R. W. Bro. A. S. Myers, of Memphis, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, that Grand Lodge having resumed the practice of interchanging Representatives.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Belgium, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed M. W. Bro. Houzeau de Lehaie our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Belgium.

RESIGNATION OF R. W. BRO. C. L. MERRITT.

On the 16th October, 1898, the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, D. D. G. M., of the Wilson District, No. 6, in place of R. W. Bro. C. L. Merritt, removed from the jurisdiction.

LODGE BY LAWS.

The M. W. the Grand Master has examined, revised and confirmed the by-laws of the following lodges: 1898, December 22nd, Dyment Lodge No. 442, Thessalon;

1899, January 3rd, Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath;
 1899, April 3rd, Nitetis Lodge No. 444, Creemore.

The M. W. the Grand Master has examined, revised and confirmed amendments to the by-laws of the following lodges:

1898, August 26th, Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa.
 1898, September 14th, Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls.
 1898, Sept. 15th, Stanley Lodge, No. 426, West Toronto Junction.
 1898, October 13th, Wingham Lodge, No. 286, Wingham.
 1898, November 16th, Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa.
 1898, December 5th, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto.
 1898, December 20th, Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie.
 1898, December 27th, Amity Lodge, No. 32, Dunnville.
 1899, January 17th, Doric Lodge, No 58, Ottawa.
 1899, January 21st, Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie.
 1899, January 21st, Corinthian Lodge, No. 101, Peterboro.
 1899, January 30th, Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie.
 1899, March 4th, Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto.
 1899, March 22nd, Irvine Lodge, No. 203, Elora.
 1899, March 25th, Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi.
 1899, April 10th, Union Lodge, No. 380, London.
 1899, April 18th, Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls.
 1899, May 18th, Composite Lodge, No. 30, Whitby.
 1899, May 18th, Richardson Lodge, No. 136, Stouffville.
 1899, June 20th, Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie.
 1899, June 29th, Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford.
 1899, July 7th, Burlington Lodge, No. 165, Burlington.
 1899, July 10th, The Belleville Lodge, No. 123, Belleville.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have issued by instruction of the M. M. the Grand Master the following dispensations, viz.:

DISPENSATIONS.

DATE.	No. of LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
July 14, 1898..	129	The Rising Sun.....	Aurora	To Attend Divine Service.
" 30, " ..	196	Madawaska	Arnprior	" Attend Divine Service.
" 30, " ..	436	Burns	Hepworth	" Attend Divine Service.
Aug. 2, " ..	292	Robertson	King.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 4, " ..	287	Shumiah	Port Arthur	" Wear Regalia at a Ball.
" 9, " ..	415	Fort William.....	Fort William	" Wear Regalia at a Ball.
" 11, " ..	147	Mississippi	Almonte.....	" Attend Divine Service.
Sept. 19, " ..	357	Waterdown	Millgrove.....	" Attend Divine Service.
Oct. 1, " ..	62	St. Andrew's.....	Caledonia.....	" Attend Divine Service.
Nov. 25, " ..	116	Cassia	Thedford.....	" Elect Officers.
" 25, " ..	409	Golden Rule	Gravenhurst	" Elect Officers.
" 29, " ..	360	Muskoka	Bracebridge	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 28, " ..	186	Plantagenet	Plantagenet.....	" Elect Officers.
" 28, " ..	364	Chaudiere.....	Ottawa.....	" Elect Officers.
" 28, " ..	438	Harmony.....	Toronto	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
Dec. 5, " ..	292	Robertson	King	" Install Officers.
" 5, " ..	217	Frederick	Delhi	" Elect Officers.
" 8, " ..	U. D.	Granite	Fort Frances	" Wear Regalia at a Ball.
" 9, " ..	185	Emmiskillen	York	" Elect Officers.
" 15, " ..	439	Alexandria	Alexandria	" Elect Officers.
" 15, " ..	435	Havelock	Havelock	" Elect Officers.
" 16, " ..	373	Copetstone	Welland.....	" Elect Officers.
" 19, " ..	24	Smith's Francis.	Smith's Falls,	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 20, " ..	313	Clementi.....	Lakefield.....	" Install Officers.
" 22, " ..	190	Belmont.....	Belmont	" Initiate out of Jurisdiction.
" 23, " ..	74	St. James'.....	Bethel.....	" Install Officers.

DISPENSATIONS - Continued.

DATE.	NO. OF LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
Dec. 23, 1898..	106	Burford.....	Burford.....	To Install Officers.
" 24, " ..	222	Marmora	Marmora.....	" Install Officers.
" 27, " ..	438	Harmony	Toronto	" Change Date of Meeting.
" 26, " ..	433	Bonnechere	Eganville.....	" Install Officers.
" 29, " ..	221	Mountain.....	Thorold	" Install Officers.
" 29, " ..	390	Florence.....	Florence.....	" Install Officers.
" 31, " ..	294	Moore	Courtright.....	" Install Officers.
" 31, " ..	147	Mississippi	Almonte.....	" Install Officers.
Jan. 4, 1899..	434	Algonquin	Ensdale.....	" Install Officers.
" 4, " ..	228	Prince Arthur ..	Odessa	" Install Officers.
" 4, " ..	4 '3	Windsor	Windsor	" Install Officers.
" 5, " ..	409	Golden Rule	Gravenhurst ..	" Install Officers.
" 6, " ..	387	Lansdowne	Lansdowne ..	" Install Officers.
" 6, " ..	233	Doric	Parkhill	" Install Officers.
" 7, " ..	348	Georgian	Penetanguishene	" Install Officers.
" 7, " ..	266	Northern Light ..	Stayner	" Install Officers.
" 10, " ..	113	Wilson	Waterford.....	" Install Officers.
" 11, " ..	65	Rehoboth	Toronto	" Install Officers.
" 13, " ..	99	Tuscan	Newmarket.....	" Attend D vine Service.
" 14, " ..	359	Vittoria.....	Vittoria	" Install Officers.
" 16, " ..	343	Georgian	Toronto	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 18, " ..	224	Zurich	Hensall	" Install Officers.
" 18, " ..	57	Harmony	Bimbrook.....	" Install Officers.
" 18, " ..	277	Seymour	Port Dalhousie ..	" Install Officers.
" 19, " ..	186	Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet.....	" Install Officers.
" 21, " ..	425	St. Clair.....	Sombra.....	" Install Officers.

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	No. OF LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
Jan. 23, 1899..	384	Alpha.....	Toronto ..	To Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 24, " ..	421	Scott	Grand Valley	" Wear Regalia at a Conversazione.
" 31, " ..	346	Occident	Toronto.	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
Feb. 4, " ..	66	Durham.....	Newcastle	" Install Officers.
" 2, " ..	125	Cornwall	Cornwall	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 7, " ..	394	King Solomon	Thamesford	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 13, " ..	86	Wilson	Toronto	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 13, " ..	110	Central.....	Prescott.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 27, " ..	231	Fidelity	Ottawa	" Initiate out of Jurisdiction.
" 28, " ..	96	Corinthian.....	Barrie.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
Mar. 4, " ..	443	Powassan.....	Powassan	" Install Officers.
" 10, " ..	289	Doric	Lobo	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 14, " ..	343	Georgina	Toronto	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 16, " ..	200	St. Albans.....	Mount Forest	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 21, " ..	330	Corinthian.....	London East.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
Apl. 15, " ..	83	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
May 23, " ..	230	Kerr	Barrie.....	" Install Officers.
" 25, " ..	352	Granite	Parry Sound.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 25, " ..	196	Madawaska.....	Arnprior.....	" Attend Divine Service.
June 3, " ..	U. D.	Granite	Fort Frances.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 13, " ..	300	Mt. Olivet.....	Thorndale.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 13, " ..	203	Irvine	Elora	" Install Officers.
" 14, " ..	279	New Hope	Hespeler.....	" Confer a Degree within Prescribed Time.
" 16, " ..	7	Union	Grimsbv.....	" Wear Regalia at their Cent'l Celebration.
" 16, " ..	216	Harris	Orangeville.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 16, " ..	295	Conestogo	Drayton	" Attend Divine Service.

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	No. OF LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
June 16, 1899..	376	Unity.	Huntsville	To Attend Divine Service.
" 17, " ..	10	Norfolk	Simcoe.	" Attend Divine Service.
" 21, " ..	235	Aldworth	Paisley	" Install Officers.
" 22, " ..	115	Ivy	Beamsville	" Attend Divine Service.
" 22, " ..	396	Cedar.....	Warton	" Attend Divine Service.
" 24, " ..	129	The Rising Sun	Aurora.	" Attend Divine Service.
" 24, " ..	258	Guelph	Guelph	" Install Officers.
" 26, " ..	394	King Solomon's.....	Thamesford.....	" Install Officers.
" 27, " ..	284	St. John's	Brussels.....	" Attend Divine Service.

Fraternally submitted,



J. J. Mason
Grand Secretary.

HAMILTON, 13th July, 1898.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

Annual Communication at Ottawa, 19th July, 1899.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

I herewith submit a statement of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Grand Lodge for the year ending 31st May, 1899.

The balance at the credit of the Current Account in the Canadian Bank of Commerce, on the 1st of June, 1898, was	\$20,583 70
During the year I received from the Grand Secretary	21,040 92
	<hr/>
	\$41,624 62
The expenditure for general purposes during the year was	\$8,963 32
For benevolence	9,830 00
	<hr/>
	\$18,793 32
For \$7,000.00 "Woodstock" debentures and \$3,000.00 "Brockville" debentures with premium and accrued interest	11,529.08
	<hr/>
	30,322 40
Balance in Bank on 1st June, 1899	\$11,302 22

The attached balance sheet shows the amounts at the credit of the General Fund, and the Asylum Fund respectively, on the 31st May, 1899, and the sums invested, with the rate of interest.

All the debentures are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping.

STATEMENT—GENERAL FUND.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, in account with HUGH MURRAY, Grand Treasurer.

1898.

DISBURSEMENTS.

June 30—	Paid Grand Secretary, salary to date....	\$ 500 00
" 30—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
" 30—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date.....	50 00
" 30—	" Stenographer, salary to date.	75 00
July 31—	" J. B. Nixon, attendance on Ben. Committee.	15 00
" 31—	" J. B. Nixon, on account Ben. investigation ..	200 00
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, balance incidental expenses to 31st May, 1898	58 75
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, advance for incidental expenses	500 00
" 31—	" Times Printing Co., printing	81 50
" 31—	" J. Eastwood & Co., stationery	59 80
" 31—	" Chairman Committee on Benevolence postage	15 00
" 31—	" Spectator Printing Co., on account printing.	400 00
Aug. 31—	" Copp, Clark & Co., printing certificates, etc., on account	200 00
" 31—	" Expenses meeting of Grand Lodge at Toronto	225 62
" 31—	" Expenses G. L. of Michigan entertainment..	47 45
" 31—	" M. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson, Report on Foreign Correspondence.....	100 00
" 31—	" General Masonic Relief Association, annual subscription	113 00
" 31—	" Expenses Board of General Purposes	639 60
" 31—	" Premium on Grand Sec'y Guarantee Bond..	50 00
" 31—	" J. B. Nixon, on account Ben. investigation ..	100 00
Sept. 30—	" M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, travelling expenses for two years	1,000 00
" 30—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date.....	500 00
" 30—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
" 30—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date.....	50 00
" 30—	" Stenographer, salary to date	75 00
" 30—	" J. B. Nixon, on account Ben. investigation ..	100 00
" 30—	" J. B. Nixon, balance account Ben. investigation	39 70
" 30—	" R. W. Bro. Hegler, expenses investigation Delhi Lodge	16 50
Dec. 31—	" Testimonial to M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson ..	260 00
" 31—	" Engraving address to M. W. Bro. Gibson....	40 00
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date.....	500 00
" 31—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
" 31—	" Stenographer, salary to date.....	75 00
" 31—	" Repairs to Grand Master's regalia.....	8 75

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

Dec. 31—	Paid Grand Master, on account of travelling expenses.....	250 00
“ 31—	“ A. Jarvis & Co., for \$7,000.00 “ Woodstock” debentures and \$3,000.00 “ Brockville ” debentures, with premiums and accrued interest	11,529 08
1899.		
Mar. 31—	“ Bruce, Burton & Bruce, legal opinion on debentures	15 00
“ 31—	“ Expenses meeting of Committee on Audit and Finance	35 15
“ 31—	“ Spectator Printing Co., on account printing	1,000 00
“ 31—	“ Rent of Grand Secretary's office to April 1st, 1899.....	175 00
“ 31—	“ Grand Secretary, salary to date	500 00
“ 31—	“ Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
“ 31—	“ Stenographer, salary to date	75 00
“ 31—	“ Manchester Insurance Co., insurance on realia	17 50
May 31—	“ Benevolent orders as per list.....	9,830 00
“ 31—	“ Balance as per balance sheet	87,655 47
		<u>\$100,977 87</u>

1898.

RECEIPTS.

June 1—	Balance as per balance sheet.....	\$80,355 95
July 13—	By Grand Secretary	5,000 00
Nov. 29—	By Grand Secretary	267 62
Dec. 1—	By Grand Secretary	2,000 00
1899.		
Feb. 25—	By Grand Secretary.....	5,000 00
April 30—	By Grand Secretary.....	2,000 00
May 31—	By Grand Secretary.....	5,500 00
“ 31—	By Grand Secretary.....	854 30
		<u>\$100,977 87</u>

1898.

STATEMENT—ASYLUM FUND.

May 31—	By balance as per balance sheet	\$15,227 75
1899.		
May 31—	By Grand Secretary	419 00
		<u>\$15,646 75</u>

Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

BALANCE SHEET, MAY 31ST, 1899.

DEBENTURES—		General Fund.....	\$80,655 47
The British Canadian Loan & In. Co., at 4½%.....	\$15,000 00	Asylum Fund.....	15,646 75
The Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co., at 4½% ..	15,000 00		
The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co., at 4%.	10,000 00		
The Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co., at 4%.....	10,000 00		
The Landed Banking & Loan Co., at 4¼%	10,000 00		
The Landed Banking and Loan Co., at 4½%	5,000 00		
The Ontario Loan & Debenture Co., at 4½%	5,000 00		
The Canadian Savings & Loan Co., at 4½%.....	5,000 00		
Woodstock Debentures, face value, 6%	7,000 00		
Brockville Debentures, face value, 4%.....	3,000 00		
	<u>\$85,000 00</u>		
CURRENT ACCOUNT—			
Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	11,302 22		
	<u>\$96,302 22</u>		

We certify that the debentures named and set forth in the Balance Sheet are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping, and that the above mentioned balance, \$11,302.22, was at the credit of the current account of the Grand Lodge at the close of business on the 1st day of June, 1899.

For the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Hamilton.

(Signed) WM. ROBERTS, *Manager*.
E. P. GOWER, *Accountant*.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HUGH MURRAY, *Grand Treasurer*

Hamilton, 10th July, 1899.

PAYMENTS BY THE GRAND TREASURER ON ACCOUNT OF BENEVOLENCE.

June	1898	Aug.	1898
30 Mrs. Wm. L.....	\$15 00	31 Mrs. J. A. McL.....	\$10 00
July.		31 Dau. of Thos. L.....	20 00
31 Miss M. M. H.....	18 75	31 Mrs. N. H. S.....	20 00
31 Miss Mary W.	75 00	31 Mrs. W. S. P.....	20 00
31 Mrs. W. M. W.....	37 50	31 Mrs. Jas. M.....	15 00
31 Bro. Edward G.....	25 00	31 Bro. Jno. C. W.....	25 00
31 Mrs. Robt. V.....	10 00	31 Mrs. Andrew K.....	25 00
August.		31 Mrs. D. C. H.....	20 00
31 Bro. T. H. B.....	50 00	31 Mrs. Wm. R.....	15 00
31 Mrs. J. M. C.....	20 00	31 Mrs. Thos. S. A.....	40 00
31 Mrs. Rich. B.....	25 00	31 Mrs. G. S. McF.....	40 00
31 Mrs. Wm W.....	40 00	31 Dau. of Wm. K.....	10 00
31 Mrs. Peter P.....	10 00	31 Mrs. A. G.....	15 00
31 Mrs. Wm. S.....	10 00	31 Mrs. W. L.....	15 00
31 Bro. F. P. G.....	50 00	31 Mrs. Rich. P.....	15 00
31 Bro. Wm. C.....	50 00	31 Mrs. J. H. W.....	10 00
31 Bro. David McN.....	25 00	31 Mrs. McKee C.....	15 00
31 Mrs. G. N. S.....	15 00	31 Mrs. Thos. F.....	10 00
31 Mrs. T. T. V.....	15 00	31 Mrs. Robt. V.....	10 00
31 Mrs. John J.....	20 00	31 Mrs. R. A. K.....	10 00
31 Mrs. Jos. W.....	10 00	31 Mrs. Jacob Le C.....	10 00
31 Mrs. John M.....	15 00	31 Mrs. Jno. E.....	15 00
31 Mrs. Hy. R.....	10 00	31 Mrs. Jas. W.....	10 00
31 Mrs. F. W. C.....	20 00	31 Mrs. Wm. M.....	20 00
31 Mrs. Wm. J.....	20 00	31 Bro. W. A. McL.....	25 00
31 Mrs. Wm. C.....	20 00	31 Bro. Jno. S.....	50 00
31 Mrs. G. N. B.....	15 00	31 Bro. Hy. N.....	25 00
31 Mrs. Geo. R. Y.....	10 00	31 Bro. T. R. W.....	50 00
31 Bro. J. W. C.....	25 00	31 Mrs. Peter G.....	20 00
31 Bro. J. L. D.....	25 00	31 Bro. J. S. McD.....	25 00
31 Mrs. Albert P.....	20 00	31 Mrs. A. M.....	10 00
31 Bro. Fred. D.....	25 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W.....	10 00
31 Mrs. Wm. M. W.....	10 00	31 Mrs. P. R. D.....	15 00
31 Mrs. Lionel Y.....	20 00	31 Mrs. Walter H.....	20 00
31 Mrs. J. R. L. S.....	15 00	31 Mrs. Robt. G.....	10 00
31 Mrs. Robt. H.....	25 00	31 Mrs. Hy. H.....	10 00
31 Bro. Jas. C.....	50 00	31 Mrs. Wm. M.....	10 00
31 Mrs. W. A. H.....	10 00	31 Bro. Philander M.....	25 00
31 Bro. Arch. C.....	25 00	31 Bro. Peter B.....	50 00
31 Mrs. W. M. H.....	40 00	31 Mrs. Chas. B.....	20 00
31 Mrs. John V.....	15 00	31 Mrs. Chas. A. B.....	20 00
31 Mrs. Geo. T. P.....	10 00	31 Bro. Jno. A. S.....	25 00
31 Mrs. T. D. H.....	40 00	31 Mrs. J. W. McD.....	20 00
31 Mrs. Jno. T. G.....	40 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W.....	10 00
31 Mrs. Horatio C.....	10 00	31 Bro. Jas. B.....	50 00
31 John H.....	20 00	31 Mrs. S. M. D.....	20 00
31 Mrs. Wm. A.....	20 00	31 Bro. Robt. F.....	50 00
31 Mrs. Jno. A.....	20 00	31 Mrs. J. E. E.....	10 00
31 Mrs. Jas. B.....	10 00	31 Mrs. A. E. B.....	20 00
31 Mrs. Alex. J. S.....	20 00	31 Thos. L.....	15 00

Aug. 1898	Sept. 1898
31 Mrs. Alex. M.....\$10 00	30 Mrs. T. G. S..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Wm. P..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Joshua P..... 15 00
31 Orphs. of R. J. McA. 15 00	30 Bro. Alex. B..... 25 00
31 Bro. Jno. C..... 25 00	30 Mrs. Wm. W..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Wm. F. S... .. 15 00	30 Mrs. Jos. C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. W. J. A..... 20 00	30 Mrs. W. A. F..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Jno. H..... 10 00	30 Mrs. F. E..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Edward H..... 20 00	30 Mrs. J. B. R... .. 20 00
31 Orphs. of Jno. R. S... 20 00	30 Mrs. Oliver Y..... 20 00
31 Mrs. M. H. P..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Jno. T. 10 00
31 Mrs. S. H. McC..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Jno. F..... 20 00
31 Jno. K..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Jos. C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Geo. C..... 10 00	30 Mrs. T. H. L..... 25 00
31 Mrs. D. L. C..... 15 00	30 Bro. Jas. R..... 25 00
31 Mrs. Rich. H..... 10 00	30 Bro. Jno. F. 25 00
31 Mrs. Wm. W..... 10 00	30 Bro. L. W. W..... 50 00
31 Mrs. Jno. H..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Peter C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. W. B. W..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Amasa L..... 20 00
31 Mother of J. B. C... 40 00	30 Bro. R. C. W... .. 25 00
31 Mrs. Hy. H..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Aaron B..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Geo. E..... 10 00	30 Mrs. L. G. J..... 10 00
31 Mrs. A. C. C..... 10 00	30 Mrs. L. G. J..... 10 00
31 Mrs. F. S. C. D..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Thos. R..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Thos. G. H..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Geo. D..... 15 00
31 Bro. C. R. B..... 25 00	30 Mrs. Adam P. 10 00
31 Bro. A. C. S..... 25 00	30 Mother of S. D..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Jas. F..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Hy. A. E..... 40 00
31 Mrs. Jas. M..... 10 00	30 Mrs. S. M. P..... 15 00
31 Orphs. of Jno. D.... 25 00	30 Mrs. J. L. Y..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Jas. McG..... 10 00	30 Bro. Jas. B..... 50 00
31 Mrs. Wm. A..... 10 00	30 Mrs. L. G. C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Samuel R..... 15 00	30 Mrs. Wm. J..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Thos. B..... 10 00	30 Bro. David C..... 40 00
31 Mrs. Adam A..... 10 00	30 Mrs. A. G..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Robt. W..... 10 00	30 Orphs. of Jas. A. B. 10 00
31 Bro. Walter H..... 50 00	30 Mrs. Arthur J. 15 00
31 Mrs. Jno. M..... 10 00	30 Orphs. of Jno. J.... 10 00
31 Mrs. W. J. S..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Mat. F. H.... 15 00
31 Bro. Hy. B..... 25 00	30 Mrs. R. H..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Wm. P..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Robt. C..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Jas. A... .. 10 00	30 Mrs. A. S. W..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Thos. J. J..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Andrew R..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Jno. W..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Mat. C. B..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Levi N..... 10 00	30 Bro. Edwin McC.... 25 00
September.	30 Mrs. David S..... 20 00
30 Mrs. J. C. B..... 10 00	30 Orphs. of Mat. N. . 40 00
30 Mrs. S. B..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Jas. H..... 10 00
30 Mrs. Wm. R..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Jas. Y..... 15 00
30 Mrs. Jno. W..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Samuel S..... 10 00
30 Mrs. Edward W..... 15 00	30 Mrs. Wm. McC..... 15 00
30 Mrs. S. H. P..... 15 00	30 Bro. Robt. C. 25 00
30 Mrs. W. H. B..... 10 00	30 Bro. John J..... 25 00
30 Mrs. J. H. H..... 15 00	October.
30 Mrs. Geo. W..... 15 00	31 Mrs. Wm. S..... 10 00
30 Mrs. D. R..... 10 00	31 Bro. Wm. F. D..... 25 00

Oct. 1898

31	Mrs. C. G.....	\$15 00
31	Mrs. J. J. D.....	15 00
31	Mrs. Geo. H.....	10 00
31	Mrs. J. S. Z.....	10 00
31	Miss M. H. H.....	18 75
31	Mrs. Jas. A. A.....	20 00
31	Miss Mary W.....	75 00
31	Mrs. J. P. McD.....	20 00
31	Mrs. Robt. Y.....	10 00
31	Mrs. Jno. T.....	10 00
31	Mrs. Wm. McB.....	20 00
31	Mrs. Geo. G.....	5 00
31	Mrs. David R.....	10 00
31	Mrs. R. R. G. M.....	20 00
31	Bro. Jas. J.....	25 00
31	Mrs. A. C. R.....	15 00
31	Mrs. W. B. S.....	25 00
31	Mrs. Rich. F.....	20 00
31	Mrs. A. C. I.....	10 00
31	Mrs. W. W. S.....	10 00
31	Mrs. P. G. T.....	20 00
31	Mrs. Stephen T.....	15 00
31	Mrs. F. B.....	10 00
31	Mrs. J. W. H.....	40 00
31	Mrs. Robt. C.....	15 00
31	Mrs. Jno. B.....	10 00
31	Mrs. W. H. S.....	10 00
31	Mrs. Walter McK....	10 00

November.

30	Mrs. J. G. J.....	10 00
30	Mrs. Arthur B.....	40 00
30	Mrs. Erastus K.....	10 00
30	Mrs. Chas. W. N.....	10 00
30	Mrs. Samuel L.....	20 00
30	Mrs. G. C. McK.....	10 00
30	Mrs. R. H. W.....	20 00
30	Orph. of Sir R. H. B.	20 00
30	Mrs. J. D. McD.....	25 00
30	Funeral expenses of S. S. M.....	35 00
30	Mrs. Peter S.....	10 00
30	Mrs. Joshua B.....	15 00
30	Mrs. Leslie W.....	20 00
30	Bro. Jas. W.....	25 00
30	Mrs. Thos. B.....	10 00
30	Orphs. of Mat. C.....	20 00
30	Mrs. W. E. J.	10 00

December.

31	Bro. Edward G.....	50 00
31	Mrs. John V.....	10 00
31	Mrs. C. E. S. B.....	10 00
31	Mrs. W. M. W.....	37 50
31	Mrs. Anthony D.....	10 00
31	Mrs. Thos. E.....	10 00
31	Mrs. Arthur W.....	15 00

Dec. 1898.

31	Mrs. John W.....	\$10 00
31	Bro. Donald R.....	40 00
31	Mrs. H. L. K.....	10 00
31	Miss Mary W.	75 00

January. 1899.

31	Miss M. H. H.....	18 75
31	Mrs. W. M. W.....	37 50
31	Bro. Chas. S.....	40 00
31	Mrs. Thos. R.....	20 00
31	Mrs. E. C.....	20 00
31	Orphs. of Thos. P....	10 00
31	Mrs. John R.....	20 00
31	Mrs. D. G. H.....	20 00
31	Mrs. Wm. S.....	10 00
31	Mrs. John W.....	10 00
31	Bro. Arch. C.....	25 00
31	Mrs. W. H. P.....	15 00
31	Orphs. of Jas. A. B..	10 00
31	Mrs. Jno. E. E.....	10 00
31	Bro. C. W. B.....	25 00

February.

28	Dau. of Thos. L.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Robt. H.....	25 00
28	Mrs. F. W. C.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Jno. T. G.....	40 00
28	Mrs. Mat. F. H.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Alex. J. S.....	20 00
28	Bro. J. L. D.....	25 00
28	Bro. Jno. C. W.....	25 00
28	Dau. of Wm. K.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. L.....	15 00
28	Bro. F. P. G.....	50 00
28	Mrs. Wm. J.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Wm. McC.....	15 00
28	Mrs. J. R. L. S.....	15 00
28	Bro. Jno. W. C.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Jacob Le C.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Jno. F.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Wm. C.....	20 00
28	Mrs. J. A. McI.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Jno. A.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Thos. F.....	10 00
28	Mrs. F. S. C. D.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Geo. T. P.....	10 00
28	Mrs. T. D. H.....	40 00
28	Bro. W. A. McL.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Jno. M.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Jno. H.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Nathan H. S....	20 00
28	Mrs. Hy. H.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Robt. C.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Geo. R. Y.....	10 00
28	Mrs. John J.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Joshua P.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Jno. G. J.....	10 00

Feb.	1899.	Feb.	1899		
23	Mrs. Thos. T. V.....	\$15 00	28	Mrs. C. E. S. B.....	\$10 00
28	Bro. Wm. F. D.....	25 00	28	Mrs. D. L. C.....	15 00
28	Bro. Thos. H. B.....	50 00	28	Mrs. Samuel R.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Rich. F.....	20 00	28	Mrs. Geo. C.....	10 00
28	Mrs. S. M. D.....	20 00	28	Mrs. W. F.....	20 00
28	Mrs. W. M. H.....	40 00	28	Mrs. Wm. W.....	10 00
28	Mrs. W. A. H.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Peter P.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. M.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Hy. H.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. F. S.....	15 00	28	Mrs. M. H. P.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Peter G.....	20 00	28	Bro. Jno. F.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Geo. E.....	10 00	28	Bro. J. C.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Jas W.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Jno. W.....	10 00
28	Mrs. G. H. B.....	15 00	28	Mr. Jas. McG.....	10 00
28	Mrs. A. S. W.....	15 00	28	Bro. C. R. B.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Wm. A.....	10 00	28	Mrs. T. McC. L.....	15 00
28	Mrs. J. A. A.....	20 00	28	Mrs. Ed. W.....	15 00
23	Mrs. Albert P.....	20 00	28	Mrs. S. M. P.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Wm. W.....	40 00	28	Mrs. Jas. Y.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Jos. M.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Geo. D.....	15 00
28	Mrs. A. C. I.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Mat. C. B.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Lionel Y.....	20 00	28	Bro. David McM.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Rich. P.....	15 00	28	Mrs. Rich. H.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Robt. V.....	10 00	28	Bro. John S.....	50 00
23	Bro. Alex. B.....	25 00	28	Mrs. Jas. A.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. M. W.....	10 00	28	Bro. Hy. N.....	25 00
28	Mrs. W. J. S.....	10 00	28	Bro. John J.....	25 00
28	Mrs. David S.....	20 00	28	Mrs. John W.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Peter C.....	10 00	28	Bro. Robt. F.....	50 00
28	Mrs. Robt. G.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Geo. W. S.....	15 00
28	Mrs. L. G. J.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Robt. A. K.....	10 00
28	Bro. Edwin McC.....	25 00	28	Mrs. Horatio C.....	10 00
28	Mrs. I. S. B.....	10 00	28	Bro. Jno. A. S.....	25 00
28	Mrs. W. S. W.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Andrew M.....	10 00
23	Mrs. R. E. H.....	15 00	28	Mrs. Jos. C.....	10 00
28	Bro. Thos. H. L.....	25 00	28	Mrs. Robt. Y.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Thos. J. J.....	20 00	28	Mrs. S. B.....	10 00
28	Bro. Robt. C.....	25 00	28	Bro. Jas. R.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Jno. E.....	15 00	28	Mrs. Jas. F.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Thos. S. A.....	40 00	28	Mrs. Anthony D.....	10 00
23	Mrs. Jno. V.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Jno. T.....	10 00
28	Bro. Jas. J.....	25 00	28	Mrs. Samuel S.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Jos. C.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Edment H.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Arthur J.....	15 00	28	Bro. Peter B.....	50 00
28	Mrs. Arch. G.....	15 00	28	Mrs. Jno. T.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. S. P.....	20 00	28	Bro. A. C. S.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Amasa L.....	20 00	28	Mrs. Wm. M.....	20 00
28	Bro. T. R. W.....	50 00	28	Mrs. H. A. E.....	40 00
28	Mrs. Wm. A.....	20 00	28	Mrs. Chas. A. B.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Jno. H.....	10 00	28	Bro. Jas. C.....	50 00
28	Bro. R. C. W.....	25 00	28	Mrs. Jas. H.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Walter McK.....	10 00	28	Mrs. Oliver Y.....	20 00
28	Mrs. S. H. McC.....	20 00	28	Mrs. McKee C.....	15 00
28	Mrs. A. C. R.....	15 00	28	Mrs. Stephen T.....	15 00
23	Bro. Wm. C.....	50 00	28	Mrs. Andrew K.....	25 00
28	Bro. Fred. D.....	25 00	28	Mrs. Hy. R.....	10 00
28	Mrs. A. C. C.....	10 00	28	Mrs. J. W. McD.....	20 00

Feb. 1899	Mar. 1899
28 Orphs. of J. H. B. \$10 00	31 Mrs. Wm. S. 10 00
28 Mrs. Adam A. 10 00	31 Mrs. Arthur B. 40 00
28 Mrs. Chas. W. N. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. H. 10 00
28 Mrs. Jas. M. C. 20 00	31 Mrs. W. B. S. 25 00
28 Orphs. of Michael C. 20 00	31 Mrs. R. W. 20 00
28 Mrs. Paul R. D. 15 00	31 Mrs. Wm. J. 15 00
28 Mrs. J. B. R. 20 00	31 Orphs. of Thos. P. 10 00
28 Mrs. J. B. C. 40 00	31 Mrs. Jas. C. B. 10 00
28 Mrs. Mat. G. V. 10 00	31 Mrs. W. W. S. 10 00
28 Orphs. of R. J. McA. 15 00	31 Mrs. Wm. P. 20 00
28 Mrs. Jno. V. 15 00	31 Mrs. Thos. G. H. 10 00
28 Bro. Philander M. 25 00	31 Mrs. 'no. K. 10 00
28 Mrs. Wm. R. 20 00	31 Bro. Walter H. 50 00
28 Mrs. Jas. H. H. 15 00	31 Mrs. W. J. A. 20 00
28 Mrs. Jas. M. 15 00	31 Bro. W. A. R. 50 00
28 Mrs. F. B. 10 00	31 Mrs. R. R. G. M. 20 00
28 Mrs. Wm. McB. 20 00	31 Mrs. Arthur W. 15 00
28 Mrs. Geo. H. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W. 10 00
28 Mrs. Jas. S. Z. 10 00	31 Mrs. S. H. B. 10 00
28 Mrs. Albert E. B. 20 00	31 Orphs. of Jno. D. 25 00
28 Bro. L. W. W. 50 00	31 Mrs. J. P. McD. 20 00
28 Mrs. Andrew R. 20 00	31 Mrs. F. E. 10 00
28 Mrs. Levi N. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W. 10 00
28 Mrs. Alex. M. 10 00	31 Mrs. W. E. J. 10 00
28 Mrs. Joshua B. 15 00	
28 Bro. Jos. B. 50 00	April.
28 Mrs. Wm. P. 10 00	30 Orphs. of Sir N. H. B. 20 00
28 Mrs. Chas. B. 20 00	30 Mrs. Aaron B. 20 00
28 Mrs. L. G. C. 10 00	30 Miss M. H. H. 18 75
28 Mrs. Thos. R. 10 00	30 Orphs. of Jno. R. S. 20 00
28 Mrs. Peter S. 10 00	30 Miss Mary W. 75 00
28 Mrs. David R. 10 00	30 Bro. Edward G. 50 00
28 Mrs. Wm. R. 15 00	30 Mrs. W. M. W. 37 50
28 Mrs. Erastus K. 10 00	30 Mrs. H. R. 15 00
28 Mrs. Robt. C. 15 00	30 Mrs. Robt. W. 10 00
28 Mrs. Jas. L. Y. 10 00	30 Mrs. A. K. 30 00
28 Orphs. of Jno. J. 10 00	30 Mrs. H. L. K. 10 00
28 Bro. Hy. N. 40 00	30 Mrs. A. G. 10 00
28 Mrs. Adam P. 10 00	30 Mrs. David R. 10 00
28 Bro. Hy. B. 25 00	
28 Mother of Samuel D. 20 00	May.
28 Mrs. Geo. G. 5 00	31 Mrs. Thos. B. 10 00
28 Mrs. Walter H. 20 00	31 Mrs. Leslie W. 20 00
28 Mrs. Thos. G. S. 10 00	31 Bro. Jas. W. 25 00
March.	31 Mrs. Thos. E. 10 00
31 Mrs. John B. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jas. J. D. 10 00
31 Mrs. Wm. H. S. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. M. S. 25 00
31 Mrs. Chas. G. 15 00	
31 Mrs. Jos. M. 10 00	Total..... \$9,830 00

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, and

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the reports from the various District Deputy Grand Masters be received, considered as read, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

ERIE DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario:

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor of presenting my report on the condition of Masonry in Erie District, No. 1, during the past year, and while I do so, allow me to extend my thanks to the brethren of this district for their expression of confidence in me in electing me unanimously to the high position of D. D. G. M. My first appointments were Rev. Wm. Patterson, Leamington, Chaplain of the district, and A. T. Boles, Secretary of the same.

Having been called upon to fill the position of D. D. G. M. of Erie District, No. 1, I am free to state that I have derived a great amount of pleasure from the universal support and uniform kindness which have been extended to me in every portion of the district. The question of affiliation of non-affiliate Masons was discussed in nearly every lodge, and much good may be the result. Before commencing my official work for the year I issued a circular to each lodge in the district notifying them of my appointment, and also notified each lodge in ample time of the date of each official visit, which perhaps accounted in some manner for the good attendance which usually greeted me. I have visited each lodge in the district once and some oftener, with the exception of one whose work was inspected at the Lodge of Instruction held at Ridgetown on March 6th. Fraternal visits between members of different lodges I have encouraged, as by this means a greater degree of uniformity and perfection can be obtained. The financial

standing through the whole district is good and harmony prevails.

FRATERNAL.

In conjunction with our honored Deputy Grand Master, R. B. Hungerford, of London, I visited Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor, on the evening of October 6th. P. D. D. G. M's. Wm. Milner and Paine performed the beautiful work of raising two candidates to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in a highly satisfactory manner. Many visiting brethren were present and all enjoyed the banquet which followed and the kind hospitality which is so characteristic of our Windsor brethren.

DEDICATION.

The new home of Parvain Lodge, No. 395, Comber was dedicated on June 21st with all the ancient rites and ceremonies. The brethren of Parvain Lodge deserve to be congratulated upon the beautifully appointed, luxuriously furnished and commodious rooms which will form the future home of the craft in Comber. The dedicatory services were performed by D. G. M. R. B. Hungerford, assisted by the D. D. G. M. in District No. 1, P. D. D. G. M's J. B. Rankin, T. C. McNabb, Chatham; J. G. Liddell, Brantford; W. Bros. Piper, Irwin, Newhill and others of the district. The banquet which followed in the evening well sustained the reputation which the Comber brethren long ago earned for themselves that they are not only enthusiastic Masons, but successful in the fine art of entertaining.

DISPENSATIONS.

Aug. 5, 1898—Granted a dispensation to Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, Dresden, for the purpose of attending the funeral of Bro. J. Shaw, July 31st.

Dec. 20—To Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, to attend church clothed as Masons.

Dec. 29—Dispensation granted to Pynx Lodge, No. No. 312, Wallaceburg, to attend divine service clothed as Masons.

Jan. 5, 1899—Granted a dispensation to Wellington Lodge, No. 46, to attend divine worship, Jan. 8, 1899, clothed as Masons.

Jan—To Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor, to install officers, Jan. 20.

Jan. 20—To Rodney Lodge, No. 411, to install officers.

June 23—To Howard Lodge, No. 391, Ridgetown, to attend divine service clothed as Masons.

June 25—To Windsor Lodge, No. 403, Windsor, to attend divine service.

June 29—Kent Lodge, No. 274, Blenheim, to attend divine service on Sunday, July 9th.

TIME OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

It is desirable that the time of election of officers should be changed so that all the lodges elect their officers in June. The fact that the D. D. G. M. comes into office in the middle of the official year of most of the private lodges, compels him to visit them during the latter half of the year, and thus throws the whole year's work almost entirely into the last six months.

FRATERNAL DEAD.

We view with sadness the loss of several of our brethren from among us during the last year. St. George's Lodge, Kingsville, mourns the loss of Bro. E. Harris; Leamington deplores the death of Bro. Henry Suffle-moire, whose sad death by accident caused all to mourn. Star of the East suffered in the death of W. Bro. McPherson; Sydenham the loss of Bro. J. Shaw; Great Western, Bro. Jas. Park; and others have fallen by the hand of the grim reaper; but, though they are dead, yet they still speak, by the example of their words and actions, and would have us remember that there is a land where the word farewell is never uttered, and parting is unknown.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Through the courtesy of the brethren of Howard Lodge, No. 391, Ridgetown, I held a Lodge of Instruction at that place on March 6th. A large number of the brethren from various parts of the district and other places were present. The work consisted in doing the three degrees. W. Bro. A. G. Kennedy and staff, Ridgetown, opened the lodge, after which W. Bro. H. Bailey and officers of Highgate Lodge, No. 336, conferred the Entered Apprentice degree in a splendid manner. W. Bro. Howe and staff, Tecumseh Lodge, No. 245, Thamesville, worked the second or Fellow Craft degree

in good form. In the evening P. M. Bro. J. C. Locke and officers of Howard Lodge, No. 391, raised the candidate to the third or Master Mason's degree, thereby conferring great credit upon themselves by the correctness of their work.

Many distinguished brethren were present and entered heartily into the discussion which followed, among others I might mention: R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, London; R. W. Bro. J. A. C. Anderson, Ridgetown; W. Bro. Middleditch, Ridgetown; W. Bro. R. Teetzel, Highgate; W. Bro. A. J. Brown, Comber; W. Bro. Wm. Irwin, Leamington; W. Bros. E. Smith and J. Davidson, Thtamesville, and many others. The brethren of Ridgetown are noted for their kind hospitality, and they certainly maintained their reputation by entertaining their guests in a manner suitable to the occasion.

OFFICIAL VISITS

The evening of November 28th found me on my official visit to Lorne Lodge, No. 282, Glencoe. The work for the evening consisted in conferring the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees. W. M. French occupied the chair and did the work in an acceptable manner. An enthusiastic evening was spent among the brethren, who certainly are filled with the proper Masonic spirit. A nice lunch at midnight brought my first visit to a close.

The brethren of Kent Lodge, No. 274, Blenheim, having elected their officers on the evening of Dec. 26, and upon invitation from them I made my official visit and at the same time performed the ceremony of installation, assisted by P. M's. Dr. Jamieson, Crookshanks, Wilson and others.

The personnell of their officers is exceedingly high, and, under the able direction of the present W. M., R. L. Gosnell, assisted by his staff of officers, success will surely attend their efforts. The night being very stormy, yet a large number of the brethren turned out, many from the outlying districts, thus showing the deep interest the members take in the welfare of the lodge.

Though the evening of January 20th set in with inclement and blustering weather, the brethren of Highgate Lodge, No. 336, Highgate, attended their lodge in large numbers, there being nearly forty brethren in attendance. It was the first regular meeting for the new

W. Master and his officers, but they performed the opening and closing in the three degrees in a highly creditable manner. This lodge contains a number of well-informed Masons, and they have developed a spirit of discussions which should be patterned after by some of the different lodges of the district.

Naphtali Lodge, No. 413, Tilbury, was visited by me on the evening of 24th January. W. Master McGee occupied the chair. This beautiful lodge room is a model of neatness and modern design, and with such a home for themselves the Masonic brethren of Tilbury may look forward with every anticipation of success. The officers are up to date, doing their work with accuracy and precision, and take a great interest in the craft.

Upon invitation from the brethren of Rodney lodge, No. 411, Rodney, I installed the W. Master and officers, and at the same time made my official visit on the evening of January 25th. Through the devastations of influenza, there was not a very large number of the brethren present, but among those who were present was a goodly number of Past Masters, also P. D. D. G. M. Jelly, who so creditably filled the position of D. D. G. M. some few years ago. The beautiful ceremony of installation being completed, and after some discussion of the work, during which many opinions were expressed, the brethren adjourned to the Patterson House and did ample justice to a sumptuous banquet.

Windsor Lodge, No. 403, Windsor, enthusiastically welcomed the representatives of Erie District, No. 1, on the evening of February 17th. The W. M., C. Koellen, and officers conferred the sublime degree of a Master Mason upon a candidate. There was a large number of visiting brethren present from Detroit, and other Canadian and American cities, also a large number of members from Windsor and Great Western Lodges. The degree work being completed, a discussion ensued, which was participated in by a P. D. D. G. M. of Windsor Lodge and several Past Masters, which was no doubt both interesting and instructive. A pleasant time was spent in the banqueting hall later on, where all appeared to enjoy themselves. P. D. D. G. M's. E. Allworth, W. Milner, E. Wigle, P. M's. Rodd, Kenning, Hall and others graced the occasion with their presence.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 245, Thamesville. This lodge has officers in control who thoroughly understand the

manner in which the work should be done and who see that it is properly carried out. I inspected their work in the Fellow Craft degree at the Lodge of Instruction, Ridgetown, on March 6th, and was very much pleased. The affairs of the lodge are in a good state. Discipline is of a high order, and I feel quite sure that a bright and prosperous future await the brethren of Tecumseh lodge.

Central Lodge, No. 402, Essex, was visited February 22nd. Although a stormy night the brethren responded in goodly numbers. There being no work on for the evening, the lodge was opened to the three degrees and closed. A general discussion followed. Many interesting points were brought out to the advantage of the brethren present. Central Lodge is doing good work.

I visited Howard Lodge, No. 391, Ridgetown, on March 6th, by whom I was indeed heartily welcomed. The officers are well posted in the work. They exemplified the third degree in a very satisfactory manner. The books are carefully kept. Masonry is flourishing in this lodge and its prospects are exceedingly bright.

Thistle Lodge, No. 34, is justly proud of the history of the lodge and the historical reminiscences which surround it. I found this lodge on my official visit, March 21st, in a quiet state, but with anticipation of success in the future. There being no degree work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. Various parts of the work were discussed and criticized. W. Bro. Hobley, M. D., being unavoidably absent, a P. M. occupied the east very acceptably indeed.

March 30th found me at Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor. This is one of the best working lodges in the district, and under the splendid management of the present Master, W. Bro. D. L. Carley and his very efficient staff of officers, the first degree was exemplified in capital form. The officers are enthusiastic in the discharge of their respective duties, while the members show the true and proper Masonic spirit. The attendance from over the river was very large, various lodges being represented both from the city and state, while numerous Canadian towns were also represented. I am indebted to the W. M. of Great Western Lodge, P. D. D. G. M. Paine and P. M. Ouamby for assistance in performing the ceremony of healing on several candidates during the evening.

I am pleased to note the accuracy to detail of the jun-

ior officers, promptness being one of their special features. The Wardens do their work very well indeed. A very pleasing event occurred in presenting P. M. George Quamby with a beautiful Past Master's jewel, containing a very brilliant diamond. The presentation was made by P. M. P. Craig, who, we were all pleased to note, had sufficiently recovered from his recent severe illness to be present. The social side of Masonry also is not forgotten, as we enjoyed a very fine spread after the arduous duties of the evening had been completed.

I paid my official visit to Parthenon Lodge, No. 267, Chatham, on the evening of April 5th. The attendance was not large, owing to the withdrawal and removal from the vicinity of several of their best officers. The working of the lodge is not what it has been in the past. R. W. Bro. T. C. McNabb, P. D. D. G. M., was present on this occasion and assisted in discussing and criticizing various parts of the work in general. I am happy to state that the prospects are getting brighter, and that Panthenon Lodge will very soon rank among the best lodges in the district.

April 17th found me at Wallaceburg. There are a great many enthusiastic Masons in this lodge. The work of the evening consisted in conferring the Entered Apprentice degree, which was successfully done by P. M. Bro. S. J. Davis. There is a general desire in this lodge not only to carry out the working of a Masonic lodge, but also those grand principles which form the bulwark of our order. The books of this lodge are especially well kept in a neat and concise form. Bro. E. Parker is a model Secretary.

I visited the Hammond Lodge, No. 327, Wardsville, on the evening of April 18th. The W. M. is assisted by a good staff of officers. On the whole the work is well done. Parts of the different degrees were exemplified, then discussed and criticized as presented. P. M. McKillop, M. D., was present and assisted in the general discussion. The outlook for Hammond Lodge is good and a bright future is certainly assured.

April 19th found me with the brethren of Star of the East, No. 422, Bothwell, by whom I was heartily welcomed. The W. M., Bro. McPherson, being very ill, was unable to attend. His absence and illness was lamented by all present. He has since passed to that unknown country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

The I. P. M., with a splendid staff of officers, worked the third degree. Special mention may be made of the work of the deacons, who certainly acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. This lodge shows the guiding hand of a master mind in the person of R. W. Bro. Hickey, who was present. The Secretary also is well worthy of mention.

April 20th, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Hickey, Bro. Mason and others of Star in the East, I visited Florence Lodge, No. 390, Florence. Through the courtesy of W. Bro. Brown, the ceremony of healing was performed. The W. Bro. also initiated two candidates into the Entered Apprentice degree. This lodge has good prospects ahead of it, and financially is in a good position to make satisfactory progress in the future.

I visited Leamington Lodge, No. 290, Leamington, on April 25th, and witnessed the exemplification by W. Bro. Wm. Irwin and officers of the second and third degrees. This lodge is noted for the very satisfactory progress it has made, especially under the supervision of W. Master Irwin, who has rapidly brought it along. By his energy and ability he has placed it in a good condition financially. The attendance is good and prospects excellent.

Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, Dresden, was visited officially by me on May 11th. I was very sorry to find W. M. Laird unavoidably absent, but P. M. Bentley occupied the chair and gracefully opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. P. D. D. G. M. J. Carscallen and P. M's. Wm. Switzer, McBean and others being present. Some time was spent in discussing the general floor work participated in by the officers. This lodge is in a prosperous condition and doing nicely.

Parvaim Lodge, No. 395. This lodge was visited by me officially on the 19th day of May. The brethren of Comber deserve great praise and are justly proud over their new hall, so tastefully furnished and appointed. On the evening of my official visit the second, or Fellowcraft, degree, was conferred upon Rev. Wm. Campbell, a bright and popular young Episcopal clergyman of the town. The W. M. (Bro. T. Warren, did the work in a very satisfactory manner. There is no doubt but that a splendid future is in store for the brethren of Comber.

McColl Lodge, No. 386, West Lorne. My official

visit was made to this lodge on May 23rd. There being no regular work on for the evening, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. P. M. Bro. McClain worked parts of different degrees. Criticisms were a feature of the evening's programme. P. M.'s. Stalker and McCall, after whom the lodge is named, and others, were present. The officers of this lodge are efficient and active in the discharge of their duties.

The evening of May 25th found me with the brethren of St. George's Lodge, No. 41, Kingsville, M. D., this able direction of W. M. Prosper D. White, M. D., this lodge is making rapid progress. The officers are all capable and do their work exceedingly well. The W. M. conferred the third degree in faultless style, the rendition of the work by him being well worth listening to, and won the admiration of all present. P. M. M. G. Heatherington and S. D. C. Cullen, Leamington Lodge, No. 290, were present. P. D. D. G. M. E. Allworth was also present and joined in the discussion, and showed that he had lost none of that pleasing manner which in days gone by had justly earned him the distinction of being one of the most popular D. D. G. M.'s. who ever ruled over District No. 1.

Wellington Lodge, No. 46, Chatham, claimed my presence on the evening of May 29th. W. M. Bro. Rev. Battersby being absent through illness, P. M. Turner took the lodge in hand, the work in the different degrees being exemplified. An interesting evening was spent by all present. A very cordial welcome was accorded our distinguished D. G. M., R. B. Hungerford, London, who accompanied me on this visit. Many brethren from a distance were present on this occasion, amongst others being W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, Georgina, No. 343, Toronto; Jas. Sutherland, Acacia, No. 61, Hamilton; Geo. Mitton, Howard, No. 361, Ridgetown; Chas. Crafts, Annabella, Florida; Dr. J. J. Davis and Wm. M. Drader, Tecumseh, 245, Thamesville. The standard of work in this lodge is good. The brethren will no doubt maintain the high reputation for work in the future as they have so well done in the past.

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

Many thanks are due the brethren of the district for the kind acts extended to me during my official year. I have endeavored as far as possible in visiting a lodge

in which there was no regular work to take up parts of the different degrees with especial reference to the work of the Wardens and junior officers. Accuracy of work has been my aim, and after having made a close observation of the manner of doing the work by the various lodges throughout the district, I can assure the W. M's. and officers that nothing but constant practice and good discipline will enable them to become thoroughly acquainted with their respective duties, so that they may at all times acquit themselves as men and officers in Masonic lodges should. There is not a more beautiful sight than that of the officers of a lodge working together in harmony and enjoying the mutual respect and esteem of each other. I wish to thank the secretaries of the district for their promptness in answering all communications and in every way assisting me in the discharge of my duties, and I can truthfully state that they, as a rule, perform their duties carefully, as their minute books go to show. I would advise the W. M's. to be promptly at the lodge room at the appointed hour of opening, thus showing by their own example the way in which they expect the officers and members to follow. Masonry flourishes throughout the district. Its condition is not perfect in every detail, but still progressing and following its teachings ever onward and upward in the exemplification of those grand truths which are represented by the symbols of our order, and which go so far to promote social intercourse, upbuilding of character and the moral and intellectual development of the whole race.

All of which is courteously and fraternally submitted.

R. HILLIER, D. D. G. M.,

Erie District No. 1.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Erie District, No. 1, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degree's conf'd			Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.					Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
34 Thistle.....	Anherstburg.....	83	10	...	11	10	7	1	1	1	2	15	6	21	20	\$45 00	26	\$205 05	D. c. 27, '98	Fair.	Better.	Yes	\$1800 00
41 St. George's.....	Kingsville.....	131	6	...	6	4	3	1	1	1	1	12	11	23	22	5 00	59	315 00	May 10, '98	Good.	Go ".	Yes	1400 00
46 Wellington.....	Chatham.....	163	11	...	10	11	10	4	3	3	3	12	14	26	30	40 00	10	175 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Bright.	Yes	500 00
47 Gt West'n.....	Windsor.....	163	11	...	10	11	10	4	3	3	3	14	14	16	...	...	...	43 22	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
245 Tecumseh.....	Thamesville.....	50	3	...	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	14	14	16	...	...	...	33 75	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
255 Sydenham.....	Dresden.....	62	1	...	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	11	11	9	...	...	...	189 14	May 30, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	500 00
267 Parthenon.....	Chatham.....	65	1	...	5	4	4	1	5	1	1	19	4	23	15	...	...	70 90	Dec. 31, '98	Good.	Go ".	Yes	500 00
274 Kent.....	Blenheim.....	61	5	...	3	3	3	1	2	1	1	10	10	10	13	1 50	12	98 00	Dec. 30, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	250 00
282 Lorne.....	Glencoe.....	44	4	...	3	3	3	1	2	1	1	14	6	20	22	11 00	37	337 00	D. c. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
290 Leamington.....	Leamington.....	105	7	...	7	7	9	2	3	1	8	11	4	15	10	...	...	...	De. 27, '98	Fair.	Rank.	Yes	400 00
312 Pnyx.....	Wallaceburg.....	80	2	...	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	12	2	14	9	20 00	8	133 30	July 7, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
327 The Ham'd.....	Wardsville.....	22	3	...	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	13	11	20	...	...	...	76 00	D. c. 27, '98	Go d.	Go d.	Yes	300 00
336 Highgate.....	Highgate.....	55	1	...	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	12	2	14	15	75 00	2	...	De. 31, '97	Fair.	Fair.	No	500 00
346 McColl.....	West Lorne.....	29	3	...	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	3	13	11	5 00	9	24 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Go d.	Yes	125 00
390 Florence.....	Florence.....	34	6	...	6	6	5	1	1	1	1	12	12	12	14	10 00	18	95 20	D. c. 27, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	200 00
391 Howard.....	Ridgetown.....	61	4	...	3	1	1	1	3	5	2	12	12	12	14	...	...	...	Dec. 19, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
395 Parvum.....	Comber.....	40	9	...	8	7	1	1	3	...	...	14	7	21	20	...	...	...	June 10, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
402 Central.....	Essex Centre.....	50	4	...	4	4	5	1	...	...	...	10	4	14	15	5 00	12	68 00	Dec. 27, '98	Go .	Go .	Yes	200 00
403 Windsor.....	Windsor.....	106	4	...	7	7	7	1	2	...	...	2	13	30	21	80 00	32	196 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Fair.	No	150 00
411 Rodney.....	Rodney.....	37	2	...	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	9	9	9	...	...	...	173 50	June 25, '99	Fair.	Fair.	No	500 00
413 Naphthali.....	Tilbury Centre.....	71	1	...	1	2	3	1	3	...	...	13	4	17	13	...	...	49 00	June '99	Fair.	Good.	Yes	600 00
422 S. of the E.....	Bothwell.....	38	1	...	2	6	6	2	1	...	...	11	3	14	14	47 50	7	48 75	July 4, '98	Good.	Very good.	Yes	210 00

Number of Lodge.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT NO. 2.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have much pleasure in herewith submitting my report on the condition of Masonry in St. Clair District, N. 2. for the year just ended.

My thanks are due to the brethren who a year ago elected me to the high office of District Deputy Grand Master for St. Clair District, No. 2, an honor which I esteem highly, and my appreciation of which I have sought to show by an effort to promote the welfare of the craft to the best of my ability throughout the district.

Rev. Bro. T. R. Davis, B. D., was appointed District Chaplain. A special effort was made to bring in de-mitted members, and to secure the return of those who were suspended for non-payment of dues, on terms fair to themselves and fair to their lodge. A circular letter was sent out by me early in the Masonic year to each of the lodges urging special attention to this object. In nearly every instance a committee was appointed by the lodge to carry out the suggestion, in many instances with beneficial results.

Some lodges have been highly prosperous; others have been moderately successful; one or two have done little work. It has been my aim to discover and to seek where practicable, by suggestion and advice, to remove the hindrances to progress. The year has, on the whole, been a prosperous one.

Most, if not all, of the lodges have been fortunate. I should rather say, have been wise in selecting the most intelligent and enthusiastic of their members as officers. A bright, painstaking and enthusiastic W. M., imbued with the spirit of Masonry, and appreciating its lessons, will bring out the members. If the secretary has the same qualities the lodge has the most important requisites for success. When the sublime truths of Masonry are em-

phasized in the work by the Master and his Wardens, the brethren are sure to be interested.

Punctuality in opening and closing is also a factor in the success of lodges. When the brethren know that work will begin promptly on time, and that they can be home at a reasonable hour, the attendance is improved. The sleepy lodges are seldom punctual.

The prompt collection of dues is also, I find, of moment. If they are allowed to fall into arrear the attendance dwindles, zeal abates, and the lodge grows weak. This is probably the most common obstacle.

The secretaries have, with rare exceptions, been all that could be desired.

A Lodge of Instruction was held under the auspices of Burns Lodge at Wyoming on the afternoon and evening of February 28th last. The weather was very unfavorable, but, notwithstanding, we had a fair attendance. W. Bro. S. W. Trusler, of Huron Lodge, Camlachie, assisted by the officers of that lodge, exemplified the first degree. The work was creditably done. Wor. Bro. Betts and the officers of St. John's Lodge, Mount Brydges, were present, and exemplified the second degree, evidently to the satisfaction of the brethren present.

In the evening Wor. Bro. R. Coghlan, of Burns Lodge, Wyoming, assisted by the officers of that lodge, exemplified the third degree in an almost faultless manner. The criticisms and discussions which took place at the conclusion of each degree were instructive and profitable. It was to be regretted that the attendance was not larger. R. W. Bro. Harvey, on behalf of the lodges of the district, presented my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Sutherland, with a beautiful P. D. D. G. M's regalia, which evoked warm acknowledgments from the R. W. recipient.

Everywhere, and upon all occasions, the value of practice under the eye of a well-skilled brother has been enforced. That is the surest means, and, indeed, the only effective means, of improving the work. Its effects are almost instantly in evidence in the lodge room. When the brethren have confidence in their ability to work accurately, they can then effectually turn their attention to the important lessons the work is designed to impress, and so render it as to make it instructive and helpful, as it should be.

My warmest thanks are due the brethren for the hearty welcome everywhere extended to me, for the kindly spirit in which suggestion and criticism were invariably received, for the hospitable manner in which I was always entertained, and for the liberal provision made for my expenses. My duties were made light, and the labor a delight, by the brotherly reception I met with in every instance. The year is one I shall long remember. Dispensations were issued to Beaver Lodge, Strathroy, for an At-Home (by the M. W. the Grand Master) and by myself, to attend divine service, and for the latter purpose to Petrolea Lodge, No. 194, and also to St. John's Lodge, No. 81, Mount Brydges.

Bismarck Lodge, Point Edward, No. 419 :

Visited this lodge at its regular November meeting. Point Edward is a railway village and the lodge is composed of railway men, who are liable to be called out on duty at any time. The W. M. and most of his officers were out on duty that night ; so was the candidate. But, notwithstanding such drawbacks, the lodge is enthusiastic and does fair work. The genial and well-skilled secretary, R. W. Bro. B. F. George, is a host in himself, and does much for the craft. The W. M., Bro. MacKenzie, is a fair worker. The removal of the round-house to Sarnia and the prospective removal of many of the men in consequence, are giving the friends of Bismarck some concern. But the lodge has done good work in spite of serious hindrances in the past. I hope it will continue to do so.

Victoria Lodge, No. 56, Sarnia :

The past has been an unusually prosperous year, even for this prosperous lodge. It has been a growing time, and Victoria has grown steadily for several years past. Dr. F. B. Colter, as W. M., has not allowed the zeal to lag or interest to die out. At the last regular meeting seven applications were accepted. This was but a fitting conclusion to a successful year. Wor. Bro. Colter for a number of years served the lodge efficiently as Secretary. He did just as well in the east. His Worship the Mayor of the town, Bro. F. C. Watson, fills his old place as Secretary with great credit. Where so much is done the Wardens are naturally proficient, so also are the Deacons.

The lodge room, which is the common meeting place

of all the Masonic bodies in the town, has been tastefully refurnished in oak and upholstered with leather. It is now a very comfortable and pretty lodge room.

Forest Lodge, No. 263 :

Visited Forest Lodge Dec. 21st, 1898. A good attendance of officers and brethren. On looking over the register for the past year I was particularly struck with the regular attendance of a number of the Past Masters of the lodge. To the deep interest they take in its welfare can be attributed to a large extent its prosperity and the enthusiasm of its members. Wor. Bro. Hendry's record in this regard is especially worthy of emulation. He has been absent from only two meetings in ten years, and then his absence was occasioned by a well-earned holiday trip to the old country.

Wor. Bro. Flavin in the east has, during the year just closed, acquitted himself with credit. His work is careful and impressive. His successor, Wor. Bro. A. F. Steele, also does good work. The Wardens and the subordinate officers did their work with a fair degree of accuracy. The lodge, in common with most others in the district, promptly appointed a committee to carry out the suggestions contained in my circular already mentioned.

There were on the notice for the evening a first, a second and a third, also the annual election of officers. The election was marked by singular unanimity, the Wardens and the Senior Deacons being each promoted a step. While it must be always distinctly understood that the tenure of an office gives no claim to a promotion, efficiency in the lower post is good ground for advancement. I think the lodge showed sound judgment in the selections made. And I have no doubt that the new officers will prove efficient.

The first degree was done with care and a fair degree of accuracy. This lodge is in a prosperous condition, the room is neat and well furnished, the members fairly enthusiastic, the Past Masters zealous and attentive, and there is a good share of work to be done. The good attendance of bright young members augurs well for the future of the lodge. Here, as elsewhere, I sought to impress upon the brethren the real nature of Masonry, and the necessity of looking beyond ritual to the hidden meaning of its allegory and symbol, and of practicing its

fraternal, patriotic and moral teachings. On the conclusion of the first degree the hour was deemed too late to go on with the other degrees.

Bro. Campbell, the efficient Secretary, keeps his books with rare neatness and care.

There were seven Past Masters in attendance.

On the conclusion of the work an enjoyable hour was spent by the brethren in refreshment and social intercourse, for which I regret I could not remain.

Moore Lodge, No 294, Courtright :

Visited Moore Lodge on the evening of Dec. 22nd. The weather was very unfavorable; a heavy rain set in and prevented a full attendance. There was to be an initiation, but the candidate did not appear, so there was no work. The annual election of officers was the business of the evening. The officers elected are all bright young Masons who are quite enthusiastic in their work, and I am somewhat sanguine that the future of the lodge will be brighter than its history for some time past. A number of the chairs were filled by substitutes, owing to the absence of the regular officers. The opening and closing in the various degrees will, I doubt not, be much improved by practice.

After the lodge closed a pleasant social hour was spent.

Havelock Lodge, No. 238 :

Visited Havelock Lodge on the evening of the 24th of January. Owing to the prevalent epidemic of la grippe the attendance was not so large as it would have been, but there was a fair attendance of enthusiastic Masons, includisg R. W. Bro. James Newell, M. D., one of my predecessors in the office of District Deputy Grand Master, and Wor. Bro. A. Sanders, one of the most careful and exact workers in the district. The Junior Warden and the Senior Deacon were both ill, and unable to be present. The work was a passing. The degree was fairly well conferred by the W. M., Wor. Bro. W. B. Race. The lodge was then opened and closed in the third degree. Here, as elsewhere, I sought to impress upon the brethren that exactness in working, while highly desirable, was not the final goal to which Masonry leads, but that its sublime teachings, veiled in allegory and enshrined in symbol, were the pith and kernel of our esoteric art, and that to feel its influence

in moulding our lives and governing our conduct, especially with our brethren, was the end to which the work was a means, and that fidelity to the work was a means to that end.

This lodge is in a good healthy condition, the growth steady, the brethren harmonious and a number of them well skilled, the dues well paid up, and the outlook encouraging. The Secretary, Bro. David Watt, is a painstaking and efficient officer. The attendance of Past Masters is good, and they take a healthy interest in the work of the lodge, a circumstance which augurs well for its future.

After the lodge closed we repaired to the Roche House, where I was most hospitably entertained by the brethren. My recollections of Havelock Lodge are very pleasant.

Huron Lodge, No. 392, Camlachie :

Visited this lodge on the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 25th, 1899, the regular night of meeting. The work on the notice paper was an initiation, but the candidate, a railroad man, was away on duty. Wor. Bro. Brown, M. D., the W. M., opened and closed his lodge in the three degrees, and exemplified the first degree. The officers of the lodge are new to the work, this being the first meeting since their installation, but they are young and enthusiastic; many older and more experienced workers could learn a good deal from the way in which the work was done. I expect great things from Huron Lodge when its officers have had a little more practice. The W. M. is a correct and impressive worker, and he is ably assisted by his Wardens. The Junior Warden gave the lecture on the tracing board in an excellent manner, and the Deacons performed their part with credit.

The attendance was good, though a Burns concert in the village was a counter attraction. There was a large attendance of Past Masters, who seem to take a deep interest in their lodge. Among others was Bro. Fergus Kennedy, who for many years has been one of the pillars of Masonry in this locality. It was with deep regret that the brethren and I said farewell to Wor. Bro. Kennedy, who left the next day to take up his residence in the Northwest.

The officers of this lodge very wisely meet for practice and the results are evident in their work. I have striven

hard to make practice meetings of the officers universal throughout the district.

There is a prospect of a fair amount of work during the year, and the lodge, financially and otherwise, is in a healthy condition. The brethren own their lodge room, which is comfortably furnished, and, I may add, insured. The dues are all well paid up. The secretary discharges his duties faithfully and promptly.

V. W. Bro. J. M. Wilson, of Burns Lodge, Wyoming, was an interested and interesting visitor during the evening. Commendation rather than criticism was the tenor of his comments on the evening's work. Any shortcomings or slips owing to the newness of the work were pointed out privately to the Master and to the Wardens concerned.

A most enjoyable evening was spent, and at the conclusion of the work we adjourned to the hotel, where the brethren spent a social hour over the festal board and in pleasant companionship.

Burns Lodge, No. 153. Wyoming:

Visited this lodge on the evening of Thursday, Jan. 26th, at the regular meeting. Wor. Bro. Robert Hart in his proper place as Master, Senior Warden, Bro. Brodie, M. D., and Junior Warden, Bro. Benest, and the deacons in their place. I also had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bros. Dr. Harvey and Robert Scott, the latter with a half dozen of his brethren having driven over from Petrolia. The night was a very unfavorable one, the mercury below zero, with a snow storm and high wind. The attendance was about fifty. Burns Lodge is always enthusiastic. Wor. Bros. Hunter (the I. P. M.), Coghlan, Wilson and others were, as usual, on hand, and took a keen interest in the work. The W. M. conferred a first degree and a second in a manner which, having regard to the fact that this was the first meeting since the installation and his first occupancy of the east, was highly creditable. The Wardens also deserve credit for the manner in which they performed their parts. The Stewards also received my commendation. This, I find, is one of the lodges where the W. M. meets his officers to practice the work under the supervision of one or the other of the Past Masters. Hence the excellent beginning. Doubtless before the end of the year the work will leave little more to desire.

The presence of a number of Past Masters, well skilled and full of enthusiasm, of whom R. W. Bro. Dr. Harvey is the senior, has had a good effect on the work in Burns lodge. After a discussion and the pointing out of some things which could be strengthened, we closed at a late hour, and adjourned to Bro. Witty's, where we did ample justice to a substantial repast.

Alexandra Lodge, No. 158, Oil Springs :

Visited this lodge March 30, 1899, at its regular meeting. The lodge is in good condition, with favorable prospects. One candidate, the son of the Secretary, was initiated and two applications were received. Four or five P. M's. were present. Wor. Bro. Parke, though a young Mason, is an enthusiastic one, and conferred the degree with spirit and ability. The Wardens did their work well. The J. W., Bro. Dewar, gave the lecture in good style, and the charge was not omitted. Some time was occupied in kindly criticism and useful discussion. The lodge owns its hall, and is in good shape financially. The Secretary keeps model books, and the dues are exceptionally well paid up, thanks to his attention to that important detail. I drove over from Petrolia, a dark night and bad roads, but a good attendance. An hour spent in fraternal intercourse around the festive board brought the brethren close together.

St. Clair Lodge, No. 425, Sombra :

I visited this lodge on the evening of April 25th, 1899, at a regular meeting. My visit was to have been paid a month earlier, but circumstances prevented my attendance. The W. M. Bro. W. McDonald was in the Master's chair. There was a fair attendance, about fifteen members being present, but there was no work on. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. A number of the regular officers were absent, which probably in part accounted for the rather numerous slips. With more practice the officers of this lodge would do excellent work. The new Secretary, Wor. Bro. T. C. Cowan, M. D., keeps his books in good shape and will, I have no doubt, get in the arrears of dues, which are rather large. The prospects of this lodge are fair.

A social time was pleasantly spent at the close of the lodge with refreshments and fraternal intercourse.

Cassia Lodge, No. 116, Thedford :

Visited this lodge on the evening of February 20th,

at a regular meeting. The work on the notice paper was a first degree, which was fairly well done by the Immediate Past Master, Wor. Bro. Nelson. The attendance was good. This is the Masonic home of that well-skilled Mason, R. W. Bro. Sutherland, my immediate predecessor, in the office of D. D. G. M. Under his vigilant care the old landmarks will be faithfully maintained. A large number of brethren from Forest and Arkona paid a fraternal visit to Cassia Lodge on the occasion.

For some time past there has been a lull in the work of this lodge, but its prospects are, I think, improving. The W.M., Wor. Bro. Caleb Kennedy, is a whole-souled and genial Mason of long experience, and I am looking for fresh vigor in Cassia.

St. John's Lodge, No. 81, Mt Brydges :

Visited this lodge on the evening of Feb. 21st. I arrived somewhat late, having driven over from Strathroy, nine miles, through a heavy rain. There was no work on, but I found the brethren very profitably employed in practicing the second degree. A pleasant evening was spent, some criticisms made and suggestions given, which I doubt not were serviceable. There was a good attendance of brethren and Past Masters. With a little more attention to matters of detail, this lodge should do good work. The Secretary looks well after his duties.

After the work was done I was very hospitably and enjoyably entertained by the brethren.

Alvinston Lodge, No 323, Alvinston :

Visited this lodge on the evening of February 22nd. A good attendance of members, who cordially welcomed me. This is one of the best lodges in the district. Bro. J. B. Martyn, M. D., the W. M., is full of enthusiasm for Masonry, and though a young man and a young Mason, is so well skilled that the best in the district may look to their laurels. He was ably supported by his wardens and deacons. The first degree was conferred in an excellent manner, and the second, which followed it, was almost as good. The office of Secretary was just then vacant, but Bro. R. Code, who has since been elected to the office, discharges its duties well.

This is one of the lodges where the officers meet for practice and prepare carefully for all work. The effects

are plainly visible. I was delighted with my visit and with the hospitality of the brethren after the meeting.

Arkona Lodge, No. 307.

Visited this lodge on the 23rd of February, having driven over from Watford. There was a good attendance of brethren, including R. W. Bro. Sutherland, of Cassia Lodge. The lodge has sustained a slight decrease in membership during the year. The prospects are fair. The Master of the lodge, Wor. Bro. F. Patterson, exemplified a first degree very creditably. There are a number of well-skilled brethren belonging to the lodge, of whom Wor. Bro. Thoman is the senior, and Arkona Lodge will still maintain its reputation for careful work.

The officers and brethren spent a pleasant hour or so over the festive board and in fraternal companionship after the meeting.

Beaver Lodge, No. 83, Strathroy :

Visited this lodge on the evening of March 3rd. The lodge room had been renovated with splendid results, and the interior is now one of the most attractive, if not the most attractive, in the district. There was an excellent attendance, including a goodly number of Past Masters. The work of the evening was a first degree, which was done by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Robertson, and his Wardens fairly well. R. W. Bro. Whitehead, P. D. D. G. M., was in attendance, this being his lodge. I regretted very much that Wor. Bro. Mallon, one of the old members of the lodge and one of the most ardent Masons in the district, was absent through illness. This lodge has done splendidly during the past year, and its prospects are very bright. An "At Home" was held under the auspices of the lodge in April, and the brethren also attended divine service in a body on June 25th, an example which I commend for imitation.

The wants of the inner man were duly considered, and mirth and song beguiled a jovial hour after the labors of the night.

Leopold Lodge, No. 397, Brigden :

Visited this lodge on the evening of March 15th. A fair attendance of members. The work was a third degree, which was conferred by the Master of the lodge, Wor. Bro. J. J. Jarvis. Having regard to the fact that this was the first occasion on which Wor. Bro. Jarvis

conferred this degree, it was done creditably. Some of the other officers were absent, and their substitutes did as well as could be expected in the circumstances. R. W. Bro. Ward was present. His keen interest in Leopold Lodge shows no sign of abating. The attendance of Past Masters is quite up to the mark. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. A. F. Wade, is the right man in the right place. The lodge is prosperous and its prospects good.

The brethren hospitably entertained their guest, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 437, Sarnia :

This is the youngest lodge in the district, but one of the most prosperous. To the zeal and energy of Wor. Bro. F. J. Winlow is largely due its prosperity. He was practically its founder, and he still keeps a watchful eye on all that concerns it. It has had a good share of work, which has been well done. The officers are efficient and careful workers, and meet frequently for practice. The W. M., Wor. Bro. J. Fowler, is a young Mason and a young man, but well skilled. He is ably assisted by Bro. A. Kidd, the Senior Warden, and Bro. Lucas, the Junior Warden.

I visited this lodge once officially, but frequently in an unofficial capacity. Its prospects are bright. The cordial good-will which exists between Victoria and Tuscan and the harmony with which they work together are as they ought to be.

Washington Lodge, No. 260, Petrolia :

It is always a source of enjoyment to visit one's Masonic brethren in Petrolia. The people of the Oil Town are noted for their hospitality; the Masonic brethren are cordiality itself. My visit to Washington Lodge was a pleasant reminder of many visits made to it when a member of Petrolia Lodge some years ago.

Wor. Bro. Belasco, in the east, will sustain the reputation of the lodge for good work, and he is ably assisted by his officers. The work for the evening was a second degree, which was well done. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. McHattie, looks well after the duties of his office. I regretted to find that the arrears of dues were larger than was desirable, but the W. M. and the Secretary were making a special effort to remedy this, and, I trust, successfully. The prospects of the lodge are good. The

relations of the two lodges, Petrolia and Washington, are all that could be desired.

Petrolia Lodge, No. 194, Petrolia :

Wor. Bro. W. D. Burgess is again Master of this lodge. As he was in the east some years ago, when I was one of his Wardens, it was with some diffidence that I paid him an official visit. This lodge being the Masonic home of R. W. Bros. Sinclair and Robert Scott, and a large number of other well-skilled Past Masters, it is never allowed to fall much in the rear in regard to correct work. A pleasant and, I trust, profitable evening was spent. The work, a first degree, was discussed, and some few errors pointed out. The lodge is in good condition, its finances well looked after and the outlook satisfactory.

The brethren refreshed the inner man and enjoyed themselves together after the meeting, where I was delighted to renew many old friendships. I am always delighted to visit this lodge, which I have always regarded as a model one.

Ionic Lodge, No. 328, Napier :

This lodge has not had a meeting for several years. My best efforts failed to arrange a meeting. The reported meetings for some years past consisted of two, three and four brethren. Early in the Masonic year I sought by correspondence and personal effort to bring the brethren together, but without avail. I do not see any use in continuing matters in this unsatisfactory state. It would be much better for Grand Lodge to call in the warrant of the lodge and mark it as defunct.

Dufferin Lodge, No. 364, Melbourne :

My last official visit in the district was paid to this lodge, the occasion being an emergent meeting on the evening of June 30th. To my surprise and delight there was a splendid attendance and a large number of visiting brethren from Mount Brydges, Delaware, Lobo and Strathroy.

There was no work one, but the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The work was capable of improvement in some particulars, which were pointed out. Wor. Bro. Pierce, his Senior Warden, Bro. James, M. D., and the Junior Warden, Bro. Sussex, are bright

and enthusiastic Masons, and with practice and a little more attention to detail, will, I doubt not, do excellent work. The prospects of this lodge are, I think, improving, and I think it has a fair share of prosperity in store for it.

Fraternally submitted,

A. WEIR,

D. D. G. M., St. Clair District, No. 2.

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GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in The St. Clair District, No. 2, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

NAME OF Lodge.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Mem-ber-ship		Degre's conf'd		E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	Regular.	Emergent.									Total.											
56	Victoria	91	12	4	11	13	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	10	9	19	30	\$75 00	16	\$100 50	Dec. 27, '98	Very good	Very poor	Yes	Yes.
81	S. John's	53	3	3	2	2	1	1	3	3	2	1	1	1	13	13	16	15	15 00	9	28 00	Feb. 22, '99	Good	Fair.	Yes	\$1000 00
83	Beaver	90	17	1	10	5	1	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	13	3	16	25	10 00	20	250 00	June 21, '99	Exc'l Int.	Very good	Yes	Yes
116	Cassia	32	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	1	10	10	8 00	5	6 00	June 21, '99	Good	Fair.	No	Yes.
153	Burns	69	5	1	5	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	2	17	22	...	11	94 00	June 23, '97	Good	Good.	Yes	1200 00
158	Alexandra	55	6	1	6	7	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	3	15	20	...	13	26 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good.	Yes	1000 00
194	Petrolia	88	4	6	3	2	4	1	1	3	3	3	3	1	11	11	23	13	...	20	115 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good.	Yes	200 00
238	Havelock	63	4	3	3	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	1	13	13	35 00	4	15 00	June 21, '98	Good	Good.	Yes	300 00
260	Washington	76	9	3	6	7	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	2	16	15	20 50	20	207 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	250 00
263	Forest	71	9	1	6	6	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	1	14	30	30 00	23	72 00	June 23, '99	Good	Bright.	Yes	400 00
294	Moore	35	4	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	9	15	15	30 00	5	61 63	Dec. '98	Good	Good.	Yes	Yes.
307	Arkona	34	3	3	5	4	4	1	3	3	3	3	3	1	11	11	14	27	5 00	20	111 80	July, '98	Good	Fair.	Yes	200 00
323	Alvinston	51	4	5	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	4	17	27	...	23	50 00	June 1, '98	Good	Very poor	No.	500 00
328	Ionie	23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	9	9	8	...	7	44 00	June 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	500 00
364	Dufferin	28	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	4	18	16	...	16	33 00	Jan. '99	Good	Good	Yes	Yes.
392	Huron	50	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	2	13	12	7	10	N't given	Dec. '98	Good	Good	Yes	Yes.
397	Leopold	49	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	12	15	...	16	40 00	June 23, '99	Good	Fair.	Yes	Yes.
419	Bismarck	67	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	10	10	20 00	17	120 00	...	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
425	St. Clair	34	7	3	7	6	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	9	2	11	...	8	30 00	Dec. 24, '98	Very good	Good	Yes	Yes.
437	Tuscan	74	7	3	7	6	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	9	2	11	...	8	30 00	Dec. 24, '98	Very good	Good	Yes	Yes.

LONDON DISTRICT NO. 3.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Masonry in No. 3 District :

The district contains twenty-six lodges, and I have had the pleasure of visiting each lodge once, and some of them twice. I am pleased to be able to report that Masonry in this district is in a very prosperous and satisfactory condition. I find that the work is done in nearly all of the lodges by the regular officers and is generally very well done, and in cases where I found any lack of efficiency I advised the holding of special meetings for rehearsal and instruction in the work, and to visit the neighboring lodges and get the rust rubbed off, as I am satisfied that fraternal visits are a great help to every lodge. The books of the several secretaries in the district are generally well and neatly kept. The dues in some of the lodges are nearly all paid up, showing that the secretaries are looking after the interests of the lodge. I am satisfied that if all the secretaries would look up the members and collect the dues closer there would be fewer suspensions for non-payment of dues.

I have impressed upon all the lodges the necessity of looking up the non-affiliates and try and get them back to the lodge, so as to do away with what appears to be a blot on our order. I take pleasure in thanking the brethren of the district for the kindness and courtesy they have always shown me on my official visits as the representative of the Grand Master, and at all other times, also for the hospitable manner in which I was always entertained, as all the lodges provided a very enjoyable supper and did everything to make my visit a pleasant one. I must also thank the brethren of the district for turning out so well on the occasion of the

Grand Master laying the corner stone of the new City Hall here on August 8th, 1898.

The question of initiating more than one candidate at a time came up and I applied to the M. W. the rGand Master for his decision on the matter. He decided that only one could be initiated at a time, and I so advised the several lodges in the district.

I have granted dispensations to the following lodges to attend divine service: St. Thomas Lodge, No. 44; Moffat, 399; Merrill, 344; Henderson, 388, and St. David's, 302; and have remitted the fees in connection with same to Grand Secretary.

St. Thomas' Lodge, No. 44 :

My first official visit was to St. Thomas Lodge, No. 44, on Sept. 1st, 1898. There were 36 members and 8 Past Masters present, also visitors from St. David's, 302. The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. W. L. Wickett and his officers in as perfect a manner as is possible to do it. This lodge, for perfection of work and social intercourse, is second to none in the district. As this is the lodge to which I belong, I seldom miss a meeting, and although I have not visited this lodge officially this year, I am glad to say W. Bro. H. Roe and the officers for 1899 are maintaining the high standard of work for which the lodge is noted, and its future prospects are bright.

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 94.

October 11th, 1898. I visited this lodge, accompanied by W. Bro. J. S. Frazer, Bros. H. Roe and F. O. Lawrence. W. Bro. Dr. Mothersill occupied the chair. The offices were mostly filled pro tem. There being no work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. As there had been no meeting since May, they were all very rusty. They had one application for membership and I promised to visit them again, when I would expect to see them well up in their work. I visited this lodge again on Dec. 13th, accompanied by W. Bro. W. L. Wickett, when the second and third degrees were exemplified in a very fair manner, and I again impressed on them the necessity of more practice. With a little more energy on the part of the officers the prospects will improve. There is too much outstanding dues. I pointed out the necessity for collecting these and making themselves good on the books of the Grand Lodge.

Mount Olivet Lodge, No. 300 :

I visited this lodge Oct. 25th, 1898, accompanied by W. Bro. A. A. Campbell, of London. The W. M. being sick, the P. M., W. Bro. Dunlop, assisted by the other officers of the lodge, exemplified the second degree in a very fair manner. The prospects of this lodge seem to be good.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 394, Thamesford, Ont. :

Visited this lodge on Oct. 26th, 1899, accompanied by W. Bro. Essehy and Dambro, of London. There was a good attendance of the members and visitors, which satisfied me that this was a live lodge. The third degree was exemplified, and the work was well done, especially by the W. M., W. Bro. J. T. Lloyd. The prospects of this lodge are good. After the lodge was closed refreshments were prepared, but having to catch the train, we could not stay to assist at the fourth degree.

Merril Lodge, No. 344, Dorchester Station :

Visited this lodge Oct. 27th, 1898, accompanied by W. Bros. J. Paull, Morgan, Chittick, Bro. Wood and others from London, also brethren from Harrietsville and Thamesford were present. There being no work, the lodge was opened and closed severally in the first, second and third degrees by the W. M. and his officers in a very creditable manner, showing that if there was work to do they were prepared to do it. This lodge is sound financially and otherwise.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No 171, Lawrence Station :

Visited this lodge Nov. 4th, 1898, accompanied by W. Bros. Wickett and Frazer, and Bro. Roe, of St. Thomas lodge, No. 44. This old Lodge appears to have taken on new life since they have moved to new quarters. I found they had six candidates balloted for and one candidate was raised to the third degree. The work was fairly well done, especially by the W. M., W. Bro. McCallum. The junior officers would be better with a little more practice and care in their several parts. The prospects of this lodge are good.

Cameron Lodge, No. 232, Dutton, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Nov. 23rd and found the members very late in getting to the lodge; so late, in fact, that it was after 9 p. m. before the lodge could be opened. A candidate was expected for initiation, but failed to put

in an appearance; but by request the W. M., Bro. J. Balkwell exemplified the first degree on a brother who offered for the purpose, and I am pleased to say the work was perfectly rendered by the W. M., although the junior officers were not so well posted. A little more energy on the part of the junior officers in support of the W. M., and this lodge could be made second to none.

Delaware Valley Lodge, No 358, Delaware, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Nov. 25th, accompanied by Bro. H. Roe, of St. Thomas, and found a number of visitors present from Mount Brydges, Lawrence Station and other places. Was also pleased to meet R. W. Bro. Harris, P. D. D. G. M. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M. and his officers in a very creditable manner. A little closer attention to the floor work by the junior officers would make the work more alive to the candidates, and more interesting to the members around the room.

St. George's Lodge, No 42, London, Ont. :

Visited this lodge Dec. 7 and received a very hearty reception, there being upwards of one hundred brethren present, including a large number of Past Masters, all of whom I was pleased to see, as I think that when P. M's. are regular in attendance at the lodge there is not much fear but that the lodge will prosper. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M. and officers of the lodge in a very able manner; in fact, the officers seemed to vie with each other which would do the work the better. This being the annual meeting, the election of officers then took place, and from the officers elected nothing but good and true work should be seen in St. George's, 42. This lodge is in a very flourishing condition; the dues are well paid up and very few suspensions.

Malahide Lodge, No. 140, Aylmer, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Dec. 21st, accompanied by W. Bros. Wickett and Frazer, and several other brethren from St. Thomas. This is one of the best working lodges in the district, not only Masonically but socially, and as usual we received a very hearty reception. The first and second degrees were exemplified in a nearly faultless manner by the W. M. and the regular officers. I have no doubt that by the regular attendance of R. W. Bro. Rutherford and the other Past Masters, the officers

are kept up to the standard the lodge has held for many years.

Belmont Lodge, No 190, Belmont, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Dec. 23rd, accompanied by W. Bros. Frazer, McCully and Roe and several other brethren of St. Thomas. There was a good attendance of the brethren present. The first and third degrees were exemplified, and while the officers seemed to know the work, it was but very imperfectly done. I advised them to get together oftener and rub the rust off and visit their neighbors a little, thereby become more proficient. The dues are well paid, showing that R. W. Bro. Boyd is attending to his duty.

St David's Lodge, No 302, St. Thomas, Ont. :

I visited this Lodge January 19th. There was a good attendance of the brethren present. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M. and officers of the lodge in a fairly creditable manner; not quite as impressive as it might have been perhaps by the W. M. The charge in the first degree was well rendered by the J. W. The rest of the officers acquitted themselves fairly well. I visited this lodge again on May 18th, when a slight improvement was seen in the work. This lodge is in good circumstances financially and otherwise, and prospects good.

Henderson Lodge, No. 388, Ilderton, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Jany. 23rd, 1899. Ten members were present, with several visitors from Doric Lodge, 280, and other places. Two candidates were initiated, and the work was fairly well done, considering it was the first time the officers had conferred any degree for a long time.

Nilestown Lodge, No. 345, Nilestown, Ont. :

Visited this lodge Jany. 24th, accompanied by the officers of St. George's Lodge, of London, who conferred the third degree on a candidate in a first-class manner. There was a good turnout of the officers and members of Corinthian Lodge, of London. The W. M. and officers of Nilestown Lodge initiated one candidate, and I was well pleased with the way it was done, especially the manner in which the lecture was given on the tracing board by the J. W. The lodge has 28 members. The average attendance is good.

Union Lodge No. 380, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Feby. 14th. There was a good attendance of the brethren of this lodge and visitors from other city lodges. The first and second degrees were exemplified by the W. M. and officers of the lodge in a very creditable manner. This lodge has a membership of 110, with the prospect of a large increase. The outlook for 380 is bright. The books and finances of the lodge are well looked after by the efficient Secretary, Bro. Ward.

Warren Lodge, No. 120, Fingal.

I visited this lodge, accompanied by W. Bros. Wickett and Frazer. There were also visitors from Prince of Wales Lodge, Lawrence Station. A candidate was passed to the second degree by the W. M., Bro. Norman and the officers of the lodge in a very creditable manner. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. I am pleased to say that Warren Lodge is making better progress the last year or two. This lodge owns the building occupied by them.

St. Paul's Lodge, Lambeth, Ont. :

Visited this lodge Feby. 22nd, but on account of very bad roads there was a small attendance, but I was pleased to meet some of the London brethren, among whom were W. Bros. Paul and Wood. There being no candidate present, although one was expected, the W. M. and the officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees, which was very well done. I was invited to pay this lodge another visit when there was work to be done, but I could not be present on that occasion.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 330, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge on March 7th. There was a very large turn out of the members and visitors, there being no less than 17 Past Masters in attendance. This is one of the live lodges of the city. W. Bro. Blanchard and his officers raised one candidate in an excellent manner, and fully sustained the reputation this lodge has had for many years past of doing good work.

St. John's Lodge, No. 20, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge March 14th. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. The first degree was exemplified on one candidate in a fairly creditable manner by the W. M. and his officers. This lodge finan-

cially is one of the best in the district, having about \$1-500 to their credit. The dues are not paid up as well as they ought to be, but probably by this time they are collected up closer.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 378, London, Ont. :

Visited this lodge March 17th. A candidate was passed to the second degree in as perfect a manner as it is possible to do it. This lodge, under the care of W. Bro. Andrewes and his staff of officers, is sure to prosper. There was a good attendance of the members, among whom was R. W. Bro. J. Simpson, P. D. D. G. M., who is always in attendance. I had the honor of presenting a beautiful Past Master's pewel to Past Master W. Bro. Webber, who has been a very faithful officer of the lodge for some years past.

Moffat Lodge, No. 399, Harrietsville, Ont. :

I visited this lodge March 22nd. About twenty-two Masons were present, including visiting brethren from Nilestown, Belmont and Dorchester. The third degree was exemplified on a candidate in a very creditable manner by W. Bro. McKee and his officers. Two applications were received. Altogether the prospects of this lodge are better than they have ever been before, so far as I could learn. The evening was very wet, which accounted for the small attendance.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 195, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge April 3rd and was pleased to meet such a good turn out of the members and visitors. W. Bro. W. A. Yound and his officers conferred the first degree in an almost faultless manner. There were also four applications received. The prospects for this lodge are good, and the Secretary, R. W. Bro. Brodrick, is the right man in the right place, for he has the dues all collected but \$32.50, which is a good showing for a lodge of sixty-five members.

Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge on April 20th. There was a very large turn out of the members and brethren of the city present, among whom were R. W. Bros. Munson, Dewar and Greer. The second degree was conferred on a candidate, but owing to the Senior Warden not having his work up, especially the lecture in the second degree, the work was not done as well as it should have

been. The W. M., W. Bro. Scandrett, is a painstaking officer, and I have no doubt that he will see all his officers post themselves, as they ought to, in the future. After the fourth degree the Rev. Evans Davis, P. G. Chaplain, delivered a very fine address on the aims and objects of Masonry, which was listened to with great interest by all present.

I visited this lodge again on May 18th, being invited to see degree work, but instead of conferring degrees the whole evening was taken up by discussing matters which, if the W. M. had a little more tact and firmness, would not have been allowed to exist fifteen minutes. If the Past Masters who bring up such trivial matters would assist the W. M. in the proper working of the lodge the interests of the lodge would be better served and less fear of a good lodge being ruined by such tactics.

St. John's Lodge, No. 209a, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge 21st April and there was a very large attendance. This being one of the lodges which is allowed to work the Irish work, as it is called, brought out over one hundred and fifty members and visitors, among whom were the D. G. M., R. W. Bro. Hungerford, R. W. Bros. Dewar, Munson and Cooper. The third degree was exemplified by the M. W., W. Bro. White and his officers in a faultless manner. The officers of this lodge must certainly give a good deal of time to details, which go to make the work go so smoothly. The candidate was well posted and gave his answers intelligently and promptly. Taken altogether, this is one of the brightest lodges in the district.

Doric Lodge, No. 289, Lobo, Ont. :

I visited this lodge May 26th, accompanied by W. Bros. Kingston, Morris and Toll, of London. There being no work to be done, I requested the Master to open and close the lodge in the three degrees, which was fairly well done, considering that that was the first attempt since installation. I pointed out to them the need of more practice, asking them to get together for rehearsal often, so as to become more perfect in the work, as only by so doing the standard of the lodge could be kept up.

Middlesex Lodge, No. 379, Bryanston, Ont. :

I visited this lodge May 26th, accompanied by R. W.

Bro. Cooper, of London. This lodge consists of twenty-seven members, ten being present. The regular officers, with the exception of the W. M. and Secretary, were absent, the work of the evening being done by the Past Masters present. One candidate was raised to the third degree, but the work was not at all up to the mark, not going off with smoothness that would impress a candidate with the high standard of a Masonic lodge. I pointed out to the members present the necessity of the officers being present more often for rehearsal, so as to make a better showing in the future.

Fraternally submitted,

SAMUEL DUBBER, D. D. G. M.,

London District, No. 3.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in London District, No. 3, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

NAME OF LODGE.		LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Admissions.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions N. P. D.	Deaths.	Meet- ings held.	Average attendance of members		Amount paid for relief	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
Number of Lodge.																								
44	St. Thomas	St. Thomas	122	11	5	10	8	9	5	1	3	14	7	21	30	\$25 00	38	\$218 25	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Yes	\$800 00	Yes	
20	St. John's	London	171	6	11	3	3	4	4	1	2	2	17	4	21	30	100 00	50	400 00	Dec. 31, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
42	St. George	London	122	8	11	6	6	6	2	1	4	3	13	13	30	40 00	3	15 00	Dec. '97	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	
203a	St. John's	London	173	3	7	9	7	9	1	1	9	2	12	8	20	48	55 00	56	252 75	June 8, '99	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
195	Tuscan	London	78	9	7	7	2	2	1	1	2	1	11	11	17	32 50	32 50	1	5 00	June, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
378	King Sol'n	London	72	5	1	4	4	4	1	1	1	11	11	12	25	40 00	65 40	33	117 35	July, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
380	Union	London	113	5	15	10	13	1	1	1	8	6	12	11	21	28	65 40	25	117 35	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
330	Corinthian	London	93	4	5	5	5	5	2	1	1	11	11	12	9	20	55 50	33	90 00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
34	St. Mark's	Port Stanley	95	1	1	6	6	6	1	1	1	12	12	12	14	5	...	11	70 00	June, '97	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
345	Nilestown	Nilestown	28	3	1	6	6	6	1	1	1	13	13	16	20	119 50	119 50	5	18 00	June, '99	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
140	Malahide	Aylmer	81	4	8	4	4	4	1	1	1	13	13	15	14	5 00	5 00	23	72 00	June, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
300	Mc. Olivet	Thorndale	27	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	12	12	12	10	10 00	10 00	4	18 00	June, '99	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
358	Del. Valley	Delaware	29	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	10	10	...	...	4	10 00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
332	Cameron	Dutton	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	10	12	5 00	5 00	8	67 25	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
120	Warren	Fingal	33	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	12	12	...	...	5	57 90	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
190	Belmont	Belmont	27	8	1	4	4	4	2	1	1	14	14	16	10	...	...	32 25	32 25	Aug. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
339	Moffat	Harrietsville	24	6	5	4	4	4	3	1	1	14	14	16	23	30 00	30 00	19	76 00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
302	St. David's	St. Thomas	99	9	2	6	4	5	3	1	1	11	11	12	12	...	...	15	50 00	June, '99	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
289	Doric	Lobo	49	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	10	16	8	10 00	10 00	12	58 00	March, '99	Good.	Yes	Yes
379	Middlesex	Bryanston	26	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	12	15	...	...	3	12 00	Feb. '99	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
394	King Sol'n	Thamesford	57	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	14	35	80 00	80 00	12	120 00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
64	Kilwinning	London	139	22	19	8	8	8	3	1	3	12	12	14	16	...	...	75 00	75 00	June, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
171	Pr. of Wales	Lawrence	40	1	5	4	2	2	...	...	...	13	13	14	20	...	...	...	...	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
107	St. Paul's	Lambeth	51	2	3	1	2	2	3	...	...	13	13	14	20	...	...	...	...	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes
344	Merrill	Dorchester	29	5	3	1	2	2	1	2	2	11	11	11	12	...	...	...	...	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 4.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

Allow me respectfully to submit for your consideration the report of the condition of Masonry in the 4th Masonic District, South Huron.

It is with pleasure that I look back to the last meeting of Grand Lodge when my brethren of this district elected me to the honorable position of D. D. G. M., but it is with still greater pleasure that I reflect upon the many opportunities I have enjoyed of meeting these brethren within the walls of their several rooms; and let me say if the brethren of this district have received that benefit from my visits, which I myself have derived from my association with them, I feel that much good has been done; that the principles we ever endeavor to inculcate are better understood, our consciences quickened and our resolutions strengthened to carry out the grand and noble precepts of our beloved order. I have officially visited every lodge in the district, and when it was not convenient for me to meet them on the night of their regular meeting, they have kindly held emergency meetings, for which I am grateful. I find the work throughout the district uniformly well done. There is not a worshipful Master in any lodge who cannot work all of the degrees. The greatest harmony prevails, which is clearly demonstrated by there not being one instance of a misunderstanding reported to me; and this may be attributed largely to the efficient manner in which the officers govern their respective lodges, as I know they are men of high moral standing and well qualified to occupy that dignified and honorable position where so much delicacy and tact is required. I have held no Lodges of Instruction, as the work throughout the district is so well done I felt it to be un-

necessary to impose this expense on any one of the lodges.

I would recommend to Grand Lodge that they make it obligatory on every lodge in the district to bear their fair share of the expense when a Lodge of Instruction is thought by the D. D. G. M. to be necessary.

I issued dispensations to Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell; Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford; New Dominion Lodge, No. 205, New Hamburg; and Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford; the fees for which I remitted to the Grand Secretary.

VISITS

Wilmot Lodge, No. 318, Baden: On the evening of Sept. 2nd, accompanied by a number of the members of Stratford and Tecumseh Lodges, Stratford, I visited this lodge. W. Bro. F. Holwell, W. M., is a painstaking and efficient officer, and one who does credit to Wilmot Lodge. The other officers, while faithful to their duties, hardly have practice enough to keep them familiar with the work. However, a candidate for initiation being presented, the ceremony was conducted in a fairly creditable manner. These brethren seem to understand that Masonry is a great moral and social institution. They certainly demonstrate their belief in the social side in a most unbounded manner. They are known as lavish entertainers, large-hearted, generous and good Masons.

New Dominion, No. 205, New Hamburg: I visited this lodge on October 3rd, when I was again accompanied by a large number of the brethren of Tecumseh and Stratford Lodges. It has been my good fortune to have been a visitor at New Dominion for the past few years, on the occasion of the official visits of the D. D. G. M., and let me say that I cannot express to you the improvement that has taken place in the work in this lodge. W. Bro. Halley, W. M., raised a candidate to the third or sublime degree of a Master Mason. The whole work was done in a perfect manner. For good work New Dominion stands very high in South Huron District. After the lodge closed we all gathered around well-laden and tastefully decorated tables, where a most enjoyable time was spent.

Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford: I officially visited this lodge at the regular meeting in Novem-

ber. This is the sister lodge of that to which I belong (Tecumseh), and as I am a frequent visitor, I am therefore in a position to say that the work is at all times well done. On this occasion W. Bro. H. J. Powell, W. M., worked the third degree in an excellent and creditable manner. All of the officers are capable of doing good work. The brethren turned out in large numbers and displayed that loyalty to the craft which is so much to be desired among Masons, and which the brethren of this city have usually exhibited. I feel that there is no place under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge where the true spirit of Masonry is better exemplified than in this city of Stratford, where the members of two strong lodges meet together as one in love and harmony to promote the best interests of our beloved order. I was pleased to have with me W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, of Zeta Lodge, Toronto.

Clinton Lodge, No. 84, Clinton: I visited this lodge on Feby. 17th. Bro Joseph Rattenburg, an old friend of mine, was raised to the third degree. The work was done in an admirable and impressive manner. A brother who at the previous meeting had been raised to the Sublime degree was examined in the work, and the perfect way in which he answered more than the necessary questions, reflected great credit on the lodge. This was more noticeable, as in some of the lodges the candidates are not required to perfect themselves in this respect. I feel that no man can have a proper appreciation of Masonry who is not made to memorize what we consider the obligatory part of the candidate's work. This lodge has been fortunate in selecting officers. W. Bro. Oliver Johnston makes an ideal Master. All of the officers do their work well. R. W. Bro. Shaw, P. D. D. G. M., who is a member of this lodge, is ever ready and does give the brethren the benefit of his mature Masonic knowledge. The arrearage of dues is a little more than it should be, but the lodge is financially in good shape.

Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan: Accompanied by a number of the brethren of the Stratford lodges, I visited this lodge on the evening of Feby. 23rd. For some years this lodge has not shown that Masonic life and progress we would naturally hope for. The officers and members constitute the best men in the community and the kind of material that the best lodges are made of. W. Bro. M. Thompson makes a very excellent Master.

He is one who is held in the highest regard by all of the members of the lodge. On this occasion a candidate was initiated, but, with the exception of the Senior Warden, the Master did not receive the support he so well deserves. These brethren were most generous in their hospitality. I am most hopeful for the future of Irving Lodge. This year they have taken in some bright young members. They are financially in good shape. Dues fairly well paid, for which much credit must go to the Secretary, Bro. Matheson R. W. Bro. Tiernay, of Blyth, P. D. D. G. M., was present.

Britannia Lodge, No. 170, Seaforth: I visited this lodge on March 6th., W. Bro. Jackson, W. M., in the chair. A candidate being in readiness, was initiated, the work being done by every officer with promptness and absolute correctness. The Junior Warden's lecture, given by Bro. L. Jackson, was highly appreciated by all. I found only \$12 of arrears in books. In Bro. J. O. Rose, the Secretary, Britannia has a prize. For general proficiency I must award to this lodge first place, each officer seeming to vie with the other in the performance of their duties. The Past Masters are most diligent in their duties to Masonry and have a live interest in lodge matters. On this occasion there were present fifteen Past Masters and five Grand Lodge officers. In particular I must mention as being most devoted to their lodge R. W. Bro. Hodgins and W. Bro. John Reid.

Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich: I visited this lodge on March 6th. W. Bro. Geo. Porter, W. M., performed the initiatory ceremony on a candidate in a very commendable manner. He is an earnest and effective worker. The other officers do fair work. W. Bro. Crystal must be mentioned as a Past Master who is ever ready to render any assistance he can give to his lodge. R. W. Bro. Radcliff and R. W. Bro. J. Beck, pioneers in Masonry in this district and members of this lodge, are ever faithful to their past record. After the work was done we repaired to the banqueting room, where a most enjoyable time was spent. I was pleased to have with me W. Bro. Cordingly, W. M. of Georgina, Toronto.

Doric Lodge, No. 233, Park Hill: Accompanied by W. Bro. R. M. Cassells, I visited this lodge on April 4th. We were very cordially received at the station and escorted to the hotel by R. W. Bro. Dawson, P. D. D. G.

M. and W. Bro. F. Hutchins. This lodge has shown good judgment in the selection of its members, as, without exception, they all seem to be men of the desirable kind. W. Bro. F. Hutchins exemplified the third degree in a superior manner. He has associated with him officers well skilled in craft work. W. Bro. D. N. McLeod and other Past Masters are ever ready to be of service. Altogether a most enjoyable and profitable evening was spent.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 309, Smith's Hill: On April 6th, accompanied by a number of the brethren of Maitland Lodge, Goderich, I drove out to this lodge, which is situated about six miles in the country. W. Bro. Robertson, W. M., rendered the work of the third degree in a manner appreciated by all present. These brethren deserve creditable mention for the excellent performance of the work, as most of the officers and members live at a considerable distance from the lodge, which necessitates their driving. To provide for the comfort of their horses, they have made use of the ground floor, in which they have built stalls. The whole structure (to one who has never visited this lodge before) has the appearance of being provided with every convenience and comfort for man and beast. The regular attendance of the members of Morning Star would put many a city lodge to shame.

Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell: In company with Bro. Geo. Malcolm, of Tecumseh, Stratford, I visited this lodge on April 7th. A candidate was initiated by W. Bro. Anderson, W. M., and his officers, and considering that this was the first degree work the W. M. had done, he did very well. The officers of this lodge seem interested in their work, and govern with dignity as well as prudence. A very enjoyable time was spent around the festive board. Altogether my visit here was a very pleasant one.

Blyth Lodge, No. 303, Blyth: Through the kindness of W. Bro. Johnston, of Clinton, I was driven out to visit this lodge on April 25th, W. Bro. Cardia in the chair. The work was only fairly done, the junior officers having to depend too much upon the Worshipful Master for directions. I urged upon these brethren the need of constant drill. With an effort in this direction there is material for first-class work, and I am sure the

members would appreciate the beauty of the work, as well as the sentiment contained therein.

Zurich Lodge, No. 224, Hensall: I visited this lodge on April 27th, accompanied by a number of the brethren of Britannia Lodge, Seaforth, who most kindly made up a party and drove me over. W. Bro. Ellis, W. M., exemplified the first degree in an able manner, but the junior officers lacked promptness in responding to the commands of their superiors. Otherwise this lodge is in a prosperous and healthy state. We had as visitors a number of the brethren of Lebanon Forest Lodge. We were generously entertained and spent altogether a most pleasant and enjoyable time.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford: I visited this, my mother, lodge officially on May 19, and was greeted by a large and enthusiastic gathering, W. Bro. R. T. Harding, W. M., in the chair. The work of the third degree was admirably done, particularly when consideration is given to the fact that this was the first effort of the W. M. in working any of the degrees. This is an earnest, active and strong lodge. The arrearage of dues is altogether in excess of what would be expected from good business methods. This is, nevertheless, the strongest lodge financially in the district, and I am proud to say the largest dispenser of charity of any lodge in the district.

Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter: I visited this lodge on May 22nd. W. Bro. J. A. Stewart, W. M., and his officers worked the first and second degrees. The first degree was worked perfectly and the second very good. This lodge is certainly in a very satisfactory state, financially and otherwise. We had the pleasure of having with us R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, D. G. M., also a number of visitors from Zurich Lodge, Hensall. After the work of the lodge we were royally entertained, and as the electric light in this thriving burgh goes out at midnight, W. Bro. Stewart, who, no doubt anticipating the guests going home in the "wee sma hours," arranged for an all night service, which was appreciated by all. There were generally expressed regrets for the absence through illness of R. W. Bro. Collins, P. D. D. G. M., who is one of the most eloquent and enthusiastic Masons in South Huron.

St. James' Lodge, No. 73, St. Mary's: Accompanied by a number of the brethren of Tecumseh and Stratford

Lodges, I visited this lodge on June 5th. This was by all odds the smallest and most indifferent meeting I attended in the whole district. The Worshipful Master, Bro. J. G. Constable, worked the first degree, and so far as his work was concerned it was well done, but he certainly does not receive that support from the junior officers which would justify their appointment or election to their respective duties, and even the Past Masters, who should be an inspiration and strength to the W. M., and whole lodge, seem to have lost sight of their privilege and duty. The Secretary, Bro. Carman, is a faithful and efficient officer, and whom I hope will remain constant with the Worshipful Master to St. James. I earnestly hope that before another year an effort will be made by all connected with this lodge to bring the work up to the standard of the other lodges in this district, and I see nothing to prevent this, as there are members here capable of harmonizing the different elements and creating an interest in the work generally.

Now, my work as D. D. G. M. is finished, and in reviewing the past year's endeavors, it is with deep humiliation that I see the many opportunities for good that have been allowed to pass unimproved; yet it is with reluctance that I relinquish the insignia of this office, but in doing so I desire to express my thanks to my brethren throughout the district for the cordial and gracious reception which I have everywhere received. The kindness of the brethren has been such that my visits to the various lodges will be remembered by me as long as life shall last.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

W. J. MOONEY, D. D. G. M.,

South Huron District, No. 4.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in South Huron District, No 4, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem- bership.		Degre's conf'd			Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.			
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.			M. M.	Regular.	Emergency.										Total.		
33	Maitland.....	Goderich.....	111	9	1	9	10	1	5	3	2	11	5	16	26	\$ 9 00	5	\$ 34 00	June 21, '99	Fair.	V'ry good	Yes	\$500 00	
73	St. James.....	St. Mary's.....	65	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	1	13	13	19	59 18	12	75 00	July 1, '98	Fair.	Good	Yes	Yes
84	Clinton.....	Clinton.....	68	6	1	8	8	2	1	4	1	1	1	14	21	25 00	16	46 63	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good	Yes	450 00	
133	Leb. Forest.....	Exeter.....	67	3	1	5	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	14	21	5 00	10	114 50	Jan. '99	Good.	Good	Yes	700 00	
141	Tudor.....	Mitchell.....	45	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	14	21	59 50	21	159 00	Dec. '98	V'ry good	Good	Yes	200 00	
144	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	110	6	5	5	2	2	4	1	1	2	13	16	29	20 00	18	45 00	Dec. 31, '98	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00	
154	Irving.....	Lucan.....	54	7	4	7	4	2	2	2	1	2	12	14	12	20 00	3	11 50	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	V'ry good	Yes	Yes	
170	Britannia.....	Seaforth.....	87	6	1	9	5	5	1	1	1	2	13	17	25	20 00	1	35 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00	
205	N. Domin'n.....	New Hamburg.....	34	1	1	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	13	14	10 00	12	None.	Dec. '98	Good.	Good	Yes	100 00	
224	Zurich.....	Hensall.....	40	7	5	8	6	4	2	1	1	1	5	16	14	5 00	12	None.	Jan. 26, '99	Good.	Good	Yes	300 00	
233	Doric.....	Park Hill.....	40	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	9	2	11	15	5 00	12	None.	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good	Yes	400 00	
303	Blyth.....	Blyth.....	54	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	11	15	10 00	40	275 00	July 4, '98	Good.	Good	Yes	700 00	
309	Morn. Star.....	Smith's Hill.....	34	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	11	20	41 25	40	275 00	.....	Fair.	Good	Yes	700 00
318	Wilnot.....	Baden.....	34	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	12	11	10 00	40	275 00	.....	Fair.	Good	Yes	700 00
333	Stratford.....	Stratford.....	139	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	41 25	40	275 00	.....	Fair.	Good	Yes	700 00

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the pleasure, herewith, to submit to you my report on the condition of Masonry in North Huron District during the past year. I thank the brethren of the district for the honor conferred when they appointed me to fill the important and responsible position of D. D. G. M. for their district. I have endeavored to perform the duties pertaining to the office to the best of my ability as far as circumstances would allow, though not always to my own satisfaction. The receptions tendered to me on visiting the various lodges have been very cordial indeed, and on all occasions I have received the very warmest support of the brethren. It is worth the sacrifice of much time and effort to have the privilege and pleasure of coming into contact with the men that are found in Masonic lodges, and I shall look back upon the past year as being one of the most profitable and enjoyable that I have experienced.

During my visits I have endeavored to impress upon the officers the importance of having frequent practices on work such as the following: Steps and signs in the different degrees, floor work of deacons, questions and answers before an examining board, presentation of working tools, reciting the obligations, etc. I believe no better means than these can be adopted for arousing and sustaining the interest of the members and for securing a good attendance at the regular meetings.

In most cases the brethren have been careful and judicious in making their selection of officers, and in such cases I could not fail to notice the natural feeling of pride manifested by the brethren in their officers on account of the very satisfactory way the work was exemplified during my visit. In other cases, and I am glad to say they were very few, the brethren were subjected to some

mortification owing to the imperfect rendering of work on the part of the principal officers. It is no small honor to fill an office in the Blue, especially one of the principal offices; and it is wise in all cases to maintain a high standard of excellence in the holders of these offices. The Past Masters, as a rule, take a lively interest in the work of the lodge. This is accounted for by the fact that the Masters throughout the district make a practice of dividing any work that is to be done among the Past Masters.

The lodges throughout the district provided for a new regalia for the D. D. G. M. last year. I think each retiring D. D. G. M. should receive a regalia at the end of his term, and at a very small outlay the Grand Lodge could provide for this being done.

Dispensations were issued to the following lodges for the purpose of attending divine service: Wingham Lodge, No. 286; Moravian Lodge, No. 431; Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 362; Old Light, No. 184; Cedar Lodge, No. 396, and Bernard, No. 225.

The expenses incurred on my official visits have in all cases been promptly met.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Teeswater Lodge, No. 276: I visited this lodge on Nov. 25th. There was no degree work to be done. The Master opened and closed in the three degrees. The brethren appear to be rather rusty in the work, and not much interest seems to be evinced in Masonry. There have been no initiations for several terms, and as a result very little attention has been given to the ritual work.. Three applications were received on the night of my visit, and I expect that Teeswater Lodge is now entering upon an era of prosperity.

Fordwich Lodge, No. 331: I visited this lodge on Dec. 22nd, and I found it in a fairly prosperous condition. The membership is small, but what is lacking in numbers is made up in enthusiasm. The work exemplified was done in a very creditable manner. The books are well kept and attention is given to the collection of dues.

Forest Lodge, No. 162: This lodge was visited on Dec. 26th. This lodge is now on the high road to success. W. Bro. Barnard is thoroughly posted in his work and has the power of arousing enthusiasm in others.

One application for membership was received during the night of my visit. The first and second degrees were exemplified correctly and impressively. The brethren here have comfortable and commodious rooms and the finances are in good shape. V. W. Bro. Wyness was present and gave an interesting and instructive address to the brethren.

Moravian Lodge, No. 431: Visited this lodge on Dec. 30th and found a fine spirit of harmony prevailing among its members. W. Bros. Traill and Clark, of Saugeen Lodge, honored us with their presence. This lodge last year initiated a brother seventy-two years old. He is one of the most active and zealous workers in the lodge. W. Bro. Morrison conferred the third degree. I have seldom seen the work better exemplified than was done by the Master and his officers. This is one of the most progressive lodges in the district, and it apparently has a prosperous future. The books are well kept and the finances are in good shape. After the lodge was closed the brethren spent a very social hour around the banquet table with toasts, speeches and songs.

Wingham Lodge, N. 286: I visited this lodge on Jan. 3rd. The W. M. and his officers exemplified the first degree. The officers, from want of practice, were a little nervous and rusty, but I know that they are capable of doing excellent work. R. W. Bro. Morton, the Secretary, has the books in good shape, and looks well after the finances. The brethren have very comfortable quarters, well furnished and attractive.

Bernard Lodge, No. 225: I visited this, my mother lodge, on Jan. 20th. V. W. Bro. Wyness and W. Bro. Spencer, of Fordwich, and R. W. Bro. Leslie, P. D. G. M., of Manitoba, favored the brethren with their presence. The W. M., Bro. Blewett, and his officers, with the assistance of P. M's., exemplified the first and third degrees very efficiently. Two applications for membership were received on the night of my visit, and from present indications this lodge will have a most prosperous year. A pleasing feature in connection with this lodge was the promptness and dispatch with which the work was done. The brethren took this opportunity of presenting a P. M's. jewel to the D. D. G. M. W. Bro. Foster, the Secretary, keeps the books in good shape.

Saugeen Lodge, No. 197: I visited the brethren of this lodge on Feby. 14th. Twelve brethren from Han-

over Lodge and eight from Moravian Lodge added very much to the pleasure of the evening. The first degree was exemplified by one of the Past Masters. The W. M. opened and closed in the three degrees. The criticisms made and suggestions offered by the D. D. G. M. were cordially received.

Cedar Lodge, No. 396: I visited this lodge on Feby. 21st. There was a good attendance of the brethren and five visitors came over from Burns Lodge. The Master and his officers exemplified the first degree in such a way as to call for very little criticism. The brethren have a comfortable and well-furnished lodge room. This lodge still remains among the best in the district.

Port Elgin Lodge, No. 429: I visited the brethren of this lodge in their new quarters on Feby. 23rd. This is one of the best furnished and cosiest lodge rooms in the district, and the brethren deserve great credit for the sacrifices they have made in securing such comfortable rooms. The second degree was exemplified by W. Bro. George in a very forcible and impressive manner. The members of this lodge are enthusiastic and there appears to be a bright future ahead of it. After the lodge was closed a pleasant hour was spent around the festive board.

Hanover Lodge, No. 432: Visited this lodge on Feby. 24th and met a large representation of the lodge. About a dozen brethren from Saugeen Lodge came over for the evening. The members here are a most enthusiastic lot of Masons. They have a very fine lodge room and it is well furnished and tastefully decorated. Five were initiated on the night of my visit. The Master was ably assisted by Bros. Landerkin and Mitchell. A very pleasing feature was the musical service during the initiations. The progress of this lodge in the last two years has been remarkable.

St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 131: I visited this lodge on Feb. 28th and met quite a large number of the brethren. W. M. Johns exemplified the first degree in a very creditable manner. The lodge owns the building in which the meetings are held. This brings them in quite a revenue, so that this lodge is in financial circumstances one of the best in the district.

Forest Lodge, No. 393: I visited this lodge on March 7 and met a good representation of the lodge. The Master and his officers exemplified the first degree. The

officers are young brethren and they did the work remarkably well. Although not doing much work, this lodge is in a healthy condition.

Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 362: I paid my official visit to this lodge on March 27. The first degree was exemplified by the Master and his officers, and altogether I don't think that I have ever heard the work given with more expression and precision. I had much pleasure in renewing acquaintance with R. W. Bro. Wilson, who is a typical Mason. The books are well kept and the finances in very good condition. After the lodge was closed the members met around the banquet table and indulged in toasts, songs and speeches.

Burns Lodge, No. 436: I paid my official visit to this lodge on March 28th. Eleven visitors came over from Warton and one from Port Elgin. Two candidates were initiated by the W. M. and his officers, and the work done was characterized by that correctness and carefulness that distinguishes the officers of this lodge. Although this is the youngest lodge in the district, it has one of the most complete and Masonic equipments in the districts. The lodge is making steady progress and getting into good financial standing. The fourth degree was exemplified in a very acceptable manner after the lodge had been closed.

Old Light Lodge, No. 184: I visited this lodge on April 20th. The W. M., on account of sickness, was unable to be present, but the P. M.'s and officers opened up and closed down in the three degrees. Old Light has good material in its officers and is keeping up its past reputation for exact work.

Aldworth Lodge, No. 235: I paid my official visit to this lodge on April 21st and met a fair representation of the brethren. The first degree was exemplified and the lodge opened up and closed down in the three degrees. The work was well done considering that this lodge has not conferred any degrees for a considerable time. The books are very well kept, but not enough attention is given to collecting the dues. A little more energy and enthusiasm on the part of the members here would raise Masonry from a second place to that of first place in this community.

St. John's Lodge, No. 284: I visited this lodge on the 25th of April and was greeted by about twenty of

the members. The W. M. has moved to Manitoba and the Master's work is done by Past Masters. The second degree was exemplified. The candidate was well prepared and the service throughout particularly well done. The lodge room is comfortable and well furnished.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 93: I paid my official visit to this lodge on May 3rd, and about thirty-five members gave me a cordial welcome. The W. M. and his officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. There was no degree work to be done, but W. Bro. Scott examined the members by giving the questions and receiving the answers of the three degrees. The obligations were recited and the Warden's addresses delivered. This was a departure from the work usually done at the D. D. G. M.'s official visit, and it proved to be a very interesting and instructive way of spending the evening. This lodge owns its building, is in good financial standing, and is one of the most charitable in the district. After the lodge was closed the brethren repaired to the refreshment rooms and spent a profitable hour in having speeches, songs and recitations.

Bruce Lodge, No. 341: Visited this lodge on May 4th in company with R. W. Bro. Martyn and V. W. Bros. Miller and McPherson, of Northern Light Lodge. As there was no degree work to be done the Master and his officers opened and closed in the three degrees. They proved themselves to be well skilled in this kind of work, and I have no doubt that they are able to confer degrees with the same correctness. Interesting and instructive addresses were given by the visiting brethren, after which we all showed our skill at the well-laden banquet board.

In conclusion, I am happy to say that Masonry is flourishing in our district and that invariably a fine spirit of harmony prevails among the brethren.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM IRWIN, D. D. G. M.,
North Huron District, No. 5.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in The North Huron District, No. 5, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Men-ber ship conf'd	Decrease during year.	Degree's conferred			Atriallions.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspen-sions, other causes.	Meet-ings held.	Average attendance of members.		Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
						E. A.	F. C.	M. M.																	
93	Nthn Light	Kincardine	89	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	14	9	23	25	\$53 00	7	\$124 00	June, '99	Good	Fair	Yes	\$1600 00
131	St. Lawrence	Southampton	38	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	5	11	15	5 00	8	75 00	June, '99	Good	Fair	Yes	700 00
162	Forest	Wroxeter	28	6	6	5	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	15	11	16	12	12 00	9	22 00	Dec., '98	Good	Good	Yes	700 00
184	Old Light	Locknow	44	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	11	14	19	11 75	6	6 00	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	400 00
197	Saugen	Walkerton	51	7	4	3	6	3	2	2	2	2	2	13	11	17	20	7 00	9	68 00	Dec., '98	Fair	Good	Yes	700 00
225	Barnard	Listowel	83	3	7	6	4	1	3	3	3	3	3	14	11	20	15	26	3	87 00	June, '99	Very good	Fair	Yes	200 00
235	Aldworth	Paisley	37	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	12	9	15	8	50 00	July, '99	Good	Good	Yes	250 00
276	Teeswater	Teeswater	23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	12	15	11	61 50	June, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	250 00
284	St. John's	Brussels	57	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	11	12	15 00	14	38 00	March, '99	Fair	Fair	Yes	500 00
286	Wingham	Wingham	47	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	13	14	10	11	3	63 00	Dec., '98	Good	Good	Yes	400 00
331	Fordwich	Fordwich	29	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	15	15	10 00	4	35 00	June, '99	Fair	Good	Yes	300 00
341	Bruce	Tiverton	37	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	12	15	18	63 00	12	120 00	June, '99	Fair	Good	Yes	500 00
362	Maple Leaf	Tara	39	1	3	4	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	18	15	5 00	4	16 00	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	200 00
393	Forest	Chesley	30	1	3	4	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	14	14	20	16	15 00	5	15 00	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	Insur'd
396	Cedar	Warton	64	5	7	6	6	1	1	3	3	3	3	14	14	20	18	16 00	2	16 00	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	300 00
429	Port Elgin	Port Elgin	39	5	7	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	16	16	16 00	5	16 00	April, '97	Good	Good	Yes	300 00
431	Moravian	Eden Grove	39	5	10	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	18	13	12 00	6	12 00	Dec. '97	Good	Good	Yes	500 00
432	Hanover	Hanover	35	10	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	21	21	14	13	13	12 00	...	...	...	...	500 00	
436	Burns	Hepworth	25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	21	21	14	13	13	12 00	...	...	...	...	500 00	

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting my report as D.D.G.M. for this district, I desire in the first place to express my most sincere regret on account of the circumstances under which I was called on to accept the duties of the office. I refer to the fact of R. W. Bro. Merritt having removed from the Province shortly after he was installed. I have known R. W. Bro. Merritt for a considerable time and I know him to be a well-skilled and most enthusiastic Mason who would have discharged his duties with credit to himself and with honor to the district, and I realized on accepting the position at the suggestion of the M. W. the Grand Master that not having been the choice of the brethren, some other brother might have been more acceptable to the district. I am happy to state, however, that on every occasion where I visited a lodge I met with the most spontaneous and hearty reception, which quite reassured me of the loyalty of the brethren and made me feel that I was no less welcome than when I was the personal choice of the district, as I have been on three previous occasions, and I can assure you these visits awakened many very pleasant reminiscences and recalled many a pleasant and, I trust, profitable evening I had spent during my prior incumbency of the office. Old acquaintances were renewed, old friends greeted again, and although time has wrought its changes and in many cases the "Grim Reaper" has entered the portals, it was most gratifying to find that very many of the active members in 1885-86 and 87 are active members in 1899, showing clearly that Masonry has the charms and Masons are loyal still to the tenets and principles of the fraternity.

I found in many cases the lodges had made improvement in furniture and equipment in their lodge room,

and in this respect the comparison between 1899 and the former years of my office is altogether favorable, as showing very marked improvements in this particular direction.

Another source of great pleasure to me was to meet so many of the older members of the craft. Brethren who in many cases have been among the founders and charter members of their respective lodges, still retaining, not a passive, but an active interest, in the welfare of their mother lodges. This is as it should be, and is in marked distinction of what is sometimes found, when a brother has had the degrees conferred on him and has possibly enjoyed every honor in the gift of his brethren, his interest and enthusiasm cease he becomes careless and irregular in his attendance, and the benefits of Masonry appear to be as much lost on him as though he had never joined at all. How different in the cases I have suggested where the brethren have grown up with an interest in their lodge. The older they grow the more they love their lodge and the more they portray the true beauty of Freemasonry in their walk and conversation. One of the brightest Masons in my district has in this respect a unique record. Over twenty-five years a member of the order, and never absent but from one regular communication of his lodge, and that owing to circumstances which he could not possibly control. Is that not something of which to be proud? If we could boast of more such workers our craft would be the better for their membership.

Owing to the fact that I did not receive my appointment till somewhat late in the year and also to a great pressure of other matters which demanded my attention, I was unable to do as much visiting as I otherwise should have liked. However, I have had very able assistance from R. W. Bros. Atkinson, Miles and McDonald, who made several visits for me, and in this way every lodge with the exception of one has been visited during the year, and I have been able to visit some of the lodges on several occasions.

I desire to thank R. W. Bros. Atkinson, Miles and McDonald for their great kindness in coming so willingly to my assistance, and I feel sure their efforts have been greatly appreciated by the brethren of the district because otherwise some of the lodges would have been unavoidably overlooked.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted permission to the brethren of King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, to attend their cemetery in a body clothed as Masons, for the purpose of decorating the graves of the departed brethren, and have also granted dispensations to the brethren of King Hiram and St. John's Lodges, Ingersoll, and to the brethren of King Solomon and Oxford Lodges, Woodstock, for the purpose of attending divine worship.

VISITS.

King Hiram Lodge, 78, Tilsonburg: Shortly after his election (I have not the exact date before me), R. W. Bro. Merritt, D. D. G. M., visited this lodge and sends me his report as follows: "In company with W. Bro. Dr. Anderson, I had the pleasure of visiting this old and well-known lodge. Although I had only given them about twenty-four hours' notice, I found about forty of the brethren present to greet me, and I was received with a truly Masonic greeting. I found the officers well qualified, the brethren full of Masonic enthusiasm, the finances in good condition and the lodge in a very prosperous condition, and the outlook for Masonry in that portion of the district exceedingly bright." Since then I have to report that the lodge has suffered a great loss in the death of V. W. Bro. Charles McDonald, which took place in March last. This distinguished brother was one of the most enthusiastic Masons in the district, a very prominent citizen, standing high in his profession and held in great esteem by all who knew him.

Plattsville Lodge, No. 178, Plattsville: On the 23rd day of December I made my official visit to this lodge and installed the officers for the current year. I found the lodge in a very satisfactory condition and the brethren fully alive to the interest of the craft. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Allshire, a veteran among Masons, and a brother who has always taken a most active interest in Masonry and in the welfare of his mother lodge. This lodge has always done its work well, the officers are well skilled, and there appears no lack of enthusiasm among the brethren. The Secretary and Treasurer's books were examined and everything was apparently in the most satisfactory condition.

Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, Simcoe: This lodge was

visited officially December 27th by R. W. Bro. Atkinson, who reports his visit as follows: "I visited my mother lodge, Norfolk, No. 10, at Simcoe, on December 27th, 1898, and installed W. Brother Bottomly and his officers into their respective chairs. This is a steady-going lodge and adds its quota every year to the advancement of Masonry. I attended the lodge fairly regularly, and I cannot recall a lodge meeting for years but there were one to three degrees exemplified. The members turn out well and seem to enjoy the work and also our after meetings. The Past Masters take an active interest in the lodge and are always around if their assistance is required, but that is seldom, as our officers are always able to do their work. The lodge held its annual banquet on that occasion and a very enjoyable evening was spent."

DEPARTED.

"Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, has suffered a severe loss during the past year, one that it will not recover from for some time to come. I refer to the loss of R. W. Bro. Gilbert Wells, who departed this life October 1st, 1898, and has joined the Grand Lodge above. Whether in sunshine or shadow, in storm or in calm, R. W. Bro. Wells never failed to be at lodge; his kindly face and robust form hovers about us, although he has gone, and in our memories linger his brotherly acts and words of encouragement. We laid our friend and brother away with Masonic honors, and upwards of two hundred brethren from different parts of the district assembled to pay their last sad rites to departed merit."

King Solomon Lodge and Oxford Lodge, Woodstock: On the 27th day of December, accompanied by V. W. Bro. Dunn, of Pacific Lodge, of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia at the invitation of Oxford Lodge. I installed their officers, and on the 7th day of February, accompanied by R. W. Hungerford, D. G. M., I paid my official visit to both lodges at a joint communication held that evening. There was a very large attendance of the members, and the work of the several degrees was exemplified by the different officers in a highly creditable manner. At the close of the lodge a magnificent banquet was served and a most enjoyable evening spent. On 27th June I installed the brethren of King Solomon Lodge, on which occasion there was a very large at-

tendance. I have thus had different opportunities of acquainting myself with the work and conditions of these two lodges. Their increase has been very large this year, their officers are among the most efficient in the district, their books are neatly and well kept, their lodge rooms commodious and well appointed, and in every respect I cannot speak too highly of the Woodstock lodges.

Burford Lodge, No. 106: On the 28th December I visited this lodge and, assisted by R. W. Bro. Miles, installed their officers. An examination of their books showed them to be neatly and carefully kept. The officers are well instructed, the work is performed correctly and in such a manner to show that the lodge is composed of live, active and enthusiastic members. They have a nice lodge room, well appointed, handsomely furnished, are doing good work, and I know of no lodge where greater zeal and interest is manifested than in Burford lodge. At the close of the work the visiting brethren and myself were entertained in a handsome manner, and everything that could be done was done to display the true meaning of that beautiful Masonic motto, "To be happy ourselves and communicate happiness to others."

Oriental Lodge, No. 181, was visited for me by R. W. Bro. Atkinson, who reports as follows: "I visited Oriental Lodge, No. 181, Port Burwell, on January 24th, 1898, and installed a new set of officers. There was a fair attendance. A candidate was balloted for and accepted, and the intention was that he should be initiated by the new officers, but as he was not ready the initiation was deferred until the next regular meeting. This lodge has been at a standstill for several years, being limited as to territory and ready material, but the new officers are enthusiastic, and I feel sure that the coming year will be a prosperous one. I was very sorry to hear since I visited them that they had been burned out and suffered a considerable loss. The books, collection of dues and so on are very satisfactory."

King Hiram and St. John's Lodges, Ingersoll: On the 17th day of March a joint meeting of these two lodges was held, on which occasion I made my official visit. Ingersoll being my home, I naturally have many opportunities of visiting these lodges, and on several occasions during the year it has been my pleasant privi-

lege of attending their regular communications. Both these lodges are well officered and have had a very creditable and successful year, as will be seen by the tabulated statistics hereto appended. In St. John's Lodge a loss has been felt on account of the retirement of Bro. Ewart, who was for over a quarter of a century the Secretary. Bro. Ewart was one of the most painstaking and efficient Secretaries in the district, and it was a matter of universal regret that increasing years rendered it necessary for him to retire from the more active duties of the lodge. A better Secretary, a more popular man and a more beloved Mason does not live in this, and I question in any other district, than Bro. William Ewart.

St. John's Lodge, No. 104, Norwich: On the 29th day of March, accompanied by R. W. McCurdy, I made my official visit to this lodge. Since my former term of office this lodge has moved into more commodious and very much improved quarters, and they are now enjoying all the comforts a well-appointed lodge room could produce. The books of this lodge appear well kept, the attendance is up to the average, and everything appears to be in a satisfactory condition, reflecting credit on the officers generally, and manifesting a continual increase and growing interest in the fraternity.

Walsingham Lodge, 174, Port Rowan; Erie Lodge, 194, Port Dover; Vittoria Lodge, 359, Vittoria, and Wilson Lodge, 113, Waterford, were all visited by R. W. Bro. Atkinson, whose report regarding them is as follows: "Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, Port Rowan, was visited by me April 20th, 1899. This lodge has been very prosperous since the time I visited it in 1898-99. The W. M. tells me that they have had work every night during the past year and they raised two candidates to the sublime degree of a Master Mason the evening I visited them, doing the work in a manner which reflected great credit on the officers. They have had the lodge room neatly fixed up and are furnishing it with the most modern furniture. This lodge has many enthusiastic members and a good territory, which insures for it a brilliant future.

"Erie Lodge, No. 149, Port Dover, received my official visit on April 24th, 1899. There was a good attendance, and the lodge seemed full of life and prosperity, several having been added to its number during

the past year. W. Bro. Butler and officers initiated the candidates, which was done in a very creditable manner. They had another candidate who had been accepted, but his initiation was put off until the next regular meeting. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition. The Secretary, W. Bro. Varey, looks after the dues and keeps the books neatly.

"I paid my visit to Vittoria Lodge, No. 359, on May 19th, 1899. This lodge has so overcome past difficulties and has prospered during the year beyond my expectations, having added six or seven to its number, two being initiated on this occasion. There were several visitors from Port Rowan and Simcoe, and after the meeting there were many appropriate and witty things said. W. Bro. McCall and his officers and R. W. Bro. Kennedy are always around to lend a helping hand.

"Wilson Lodge, No. 113, Waterford, received me on May 24, 1899. I installed the officers in this lodge a year ago last January and predicted a prosperous year, but it has greatly surpassed anything I had expected. They have taken in as high as four in an evening, and numerically and financially speaking, the last year has been a grand success. Lieutenant-Colonel York installed the present officers last January, who are keeping up the record of their predecessors. They passed one candidate and raised another during the evening of my visit, the work as done being a credit to the officers. Wilson Lodge is again on its feet and promises such for the future."

Scotland, No. 193. Scotland: On the 22nd day of May I visited this lodge, which, I understand, had also been visited by R. W. Bro. Merritt previous to his going away. I was accompanied by R. W. Bros. Atkinson and Miles and a number of other visiting brethren, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. In no lodge in the district does there appear so marked an improvement since I visited them before, as is shown in Scotland Lodge. In 1886 I visited this lodge as D. D. G. M. of the district, and at that time I was almost of the opinion that it was in process of rapid decline, but now there are few lodges in my jurisdiction that give evidence of greater prosperity and more efficient management, and it was certainly very gratifying for me to find so much improvement. At the close of the lodge a very pleasant

entertainment was provided and every one felt that no fear need be felt for the future of Scotland Lodge.

Thistle Lodge, No. 250, Embro: On the 25th of May I visited this lodge, and I regret to report that the attendance was very poor, and I was not very favorably impressed with its work. Finding that a great deal of sickness in the neighborhood prevented the brethren from attending, I suggested a second visit and arranged to install their officers, which I did on the 22nd June. On this occasion I realized that my former fears were unfounded and that Thistle Lodge is quite alive. A new lot of officers were installed and they were well up in their work, and I have no doubt that the lodge, which is comprised of many noble men and zealous Masons, has a bright future before it.

Blenheim Lodge, No. 108: On the 26th day of May R. W. Bro. Miles, at my request, visited this lodge, and reports as follows: "In obedience to the request of R. W. Bro. Hegler, I visited Blenheim Lodge, No. 108, on Friday, 26th May, accompanied by W. Bro. Clement, of Burford Lodge, as my official bodyguard, and was accorded a hearty welcome by W. Bro. Daniels and members. I found a good attendance, with the officers in their respective places, supported by a number of P.M.'s. I was pleased to meet a number of visitors, among others R. W. Bro. Allshire, W. Bros. Henderson, Johnston and Hewett, of Plattsville Lodge, and W. Bro. Parkhill and others, of Burford Lodge, and as there was no work on, I requested the W. M. to open and close in the three degrees, which was done to my entire satisfaction, with due regard to floor work. Bro. Dr. Taylor is a very efficient Secretary and his books are a model of neatness, with comparatively no arrears of dues. Two applications for affiliation and one for initiation were received. I am confident that this lodge has a bright future before it. After the lodge we were invited to the dining hall of the Dake House, where ample refreshments were provided and a pleasant hour was spent."

St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris: On the 20th June I visited this lodge, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Cox and V. W. Bro. Dunn, of Pacific Lodge, of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia. I found the lodge apparently in a fairly satisfactory state. The attendance was not as large as I would liked to have seen it, and I regret to find that some of the older members were apparently not attend-

ing as regularly as they might. That evening they elected their officers, who appeared to be brethren who would protect the interest of the lodge. Of the Secretary and the manner in which the lodge books are kept I cannot speak too highly, and it was needless perhaps to say that he was unanimously re-elected.

Oak Branch Lodge, No. 261, Innerkip: This lodge was visited by me on the 22nd day of June. Their returns in the tabulated statement appended shows the lodge to be in a fair condition, but I found that the attendance had not been large nor had some of the officers been very regular in their attendance. W. Bro. Towns and W. Bros. Thomas and David Peat have long been the strong pillars on which the lodge rests, and it is hard to say what would have been the result had not these and a few other zealous brethren stuck to the ship. Of course Innerkip is but a small village and lies between Woodstock and Plattsville, and has Blenheim Lodge on the south, so that it is geographically in an unpromising situation for a Masonic lodge, but still it has a membership of thirty-seven and they are paying members, as shown by their only having total arrearages of twenty-six dollars, a most creditable showing. I suggested new books and some alterations in their system of bookkeeping, and believe all my suggestions will be carried out. On the whole, I have every confidence in Oak Branch Lodge.

Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi: This is the only lodge in my district whose condition causes any regret. In prior years I have often visited this lodge officially, and these visits were always a source of pleasure to me, and it was always regarded as a flourishing one. Lately, however, there appears to be on the part of some of the members a lack of Masonic harmony, which is causing a great deal of trouble.

Vienna Lodge, No. 237: This lodge, I regret to say, has not been officially visited during the year, and it is the only one I have been unable to reach. It was arranged between R. W. Bro. McDonald and myself that he should visit this lodge, and an evening was set for the purpose, but circumstances over which he had no control prevented his doing so. R. W. Bro. McDonald tells me, however, that from enquiries he has made and from his own personal knowledge, he is able to report that the lodge is in a satisfactory condition.

And now in surrendering the duties of my office to my successor, I desire to thank the M. W. the Grand Master for appointing me to preside over the district, where I have previously been thrice elected by the brethren as their D.D.G.M., on account of many opportunities it has given me to form new and renew old acquaintances, and I feel as though it had inspired me with new interest in the fraternity, as it has certainly awakened within me a new interest in the lodges and the brethren of my district.

I desire, in the second place, again to tender my very warmest thanks to R. W. Bros. Miles, McDonald and Atkinson for the cheerful and able assistance they have given me in the discharge of my duties, as without that aid I feel I should have come far short of meriting the confidence the M. W. the Grand Master reposed in me in committing Wilson District to my charge.

And in the third place I desire to thank the brethren of the district as a whole for the cordial welcome they invariably gave me, for the cheerful acquiescence with which they fell in with any suggestions I had to make, and for the interest that as members of our grand fraternity they appear to take in promoting the comfort and happiness of the brethren and inculcating the great principles of our time-honored institution.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. C. HEGLER, D. D. G. M.,

Wilson District, No. 6.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Wilson District, No 6, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem- bership.		Degree's conf'd			Affiliations.			Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Deceased.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Restorations.	Restorations.				Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
10	Norfolk	Simcoe.....	95	4	4	3	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25	\$77 07	8	60 00	June 24, '98	Good	Bright	Yes	\$ 600 00
37	King Har'm	Ingersoll	70	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25	10 00	50	150 00	June 27, '98	Good	Bright	Yes	500 00
43	King Sol'n	Woodstock	73	10	10	7	6	3	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	...	24	144 00	Dec. 27, '98	Very good	Fl'g	Yes	1125 00
68	St. John's	Ingersoll	75	7	7	5	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	12 00	28	250 00	June 24, '98	\$250 00	Bright	Yes	500 00
76	Oxford	Woodstock	114	11	2	9	10	8	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	22	15 00	22	165 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Excellent	Yes	1125 00
78	King Har'm	Tilsonburg	114	2	1	5	5	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	35	50 00	30	213 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	200 00
82	St. John's	Paris	47	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17	20 00	4	71 70	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Fair	Yes	750 00
104	St. John's	Norwich	96	4	2	3	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	20 00	30	136 00	June 21, '99	Good	Good	No	1700 00
106	Burford	Burford	66	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	10 00	15	150 00	June 24, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	5000 00
108	Blenheim	Princeton	25	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	5 00	2	33 25	June 20, '98	First class	Excellent	Yes	650 00
113	Watford	Watford	67	10	3	9	9	9	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	13	65 00	9	109 35	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Prosper's	Yes	5000 00
149	Erie	Port Dover	57	5	5	5	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	22 00	22	70 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	300 00
174	Walsing'm	Port Rowan	53	5	5	5	5	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	30 00	12	56 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Splendid	Yes	1200 00
178	Plattsville	Plattsville	43	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	5 00	14	114 38	Jan. 17, '99	Good	Very fair	No	250 00
181	Oriental	Port Burwell	26	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	15 00	21	91 75	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Fair	No	400 00
193	Scotland	Scotland	57	5	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	28	...	23	...	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	1500 00
217	Frederick	Delhi	38	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	6 00	24	44 19	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Fair	Yes	Yes
230	Vienna	Vienna	35	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	2 00	14	166 07	June 24, '98	Fair	Fair	Yes	Yes
250	Thistle	Embro	29	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	9	14	21 00	June 24, '98	\$35 00	Fair	Yes	Yes
261	Oak Br'neh	Inverkip	37	3	1	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	5 00	8	26 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Exc'n'g	Yes	Yes
359	Vittoria	Vittoria	20	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	...	9	27 00	Jan. 25, '99	Fair	Fair	Yes	Yes

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Canada :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit for your consideration my report on the condition of Masonry in the Wellington District during the past year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In the first place I wish to return my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me at the last meeting of Grand Lodge in electing me to this important and responsible office, and to express to the brethren throughout the district my gratefulness for the uniform and kindly treatment accorded to me whilst paying my official visits, a cordial reception being accorded me on every occasion.

During my term of office it has been my constant effort to merit the confidence placed in me. If I have fallen short in the performance of my duty it was not through lack of zeal in the cause.

I visited every lodge in the district once and some of them twice, and in every case have endeavored to fill the responsible position of the representative of the Grand Master in this district to the best of my ability.

Knowing that accuracy and uniformity in the work of our beautiful ritual is one of the greatest essentials, I devoted considerable effort to its attainment, and in my visits endeavored to instruct as far as my own knowledge would permit, which was most acceptable to the brethren. I corrected whenever I found it necessary, and complimented only where it was deserved. I am glad that I am able to report the work done throughout the district to be such as I felt authorized to accept. In nearly every lodge I have asked the Past Masters to remain after the lodge was closed to emphasize the essentials of the ritualistic work.

The harmony that exists throughout the district is most gratifying. Another very pleasing feature is the exchange of visits between the members of the different lodges. This I have endeavored to stimulate, as I am a firm believer in the good results effected by these fraternal visits. I was delighted to find in nearly every lodge I visited the active interest taken in the affairs of the lodge by the Past Masters. They still continue to render valuable aid to the W. Masters and are pillars of strength to their lodges.

THE WORK.

My first official act was the appointment of W. Bro. Thos. Shaw, P. M. of New Hope Lodge, No. 279, as District Secretary, whose prompt and efficient services have been a wonderful assistance to me in my work.

During the months of August and September I received notice of the meetings of only ten of the twenty-one lodges in the district. I then wrote to the Secretary of each lodge who had not sent me the customary notice with the result that all except three have sent me the notices fairly regularly. I would particularly call the attention of secretaries to the necessity of sending a notice of all the meetings of their lodges to the D. D. G. M.

The work is generally well done and a credit to the brethren entrusted with the performance of the same. Only in one or two instances was I disappointed, and in each of these reasonable excuses were made. I may say that in my official visits I did not consider it was my duty to unduly criticize or unduly praise the work of the brethren, but on every occasion I took the opportunity to point out any omissions or inaccuracies which I observed in such a manner as not to give offense, but to encourage the work being done in a uniform manner throughout the district.

I endeavored to notify the brethren in ample time of the date of my official visits, with the result that, with one exception, the attendance at those meetings was good, and in nearly every instance many visiting brethren were present. The hospitality of the lodges of Wellington District is beyond reproach. Everywhere there is good fellowship and good feeling, and a capacity to entertain that ought to, and does, make the brethren feel that companionship and brotherly feeling that cannot be excelled outside the mystic tie.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Towards the end of the year and having visited nearly all of the lodges, I arranged to hold a Lodge of Instruction in Guelph, that city being one of the most central points and easily accessible to all of the lodges in the district.

The date fixed was the 26th of May, and a circular letter was sent to each lodge two weeks before asking the Secretary to notify each member of the meeting and of my request for as many as possible to attend in order that by meeting together, seeing the work done and comparing the manner of doing, it might be brought into as uniform a condition as possible.

There was a large attendance at the meeting, which was most gratifying in itself, but I am sorry to say that the majority of the lodges unrepresented were those who most needed instruction in the proper manner of doing the ritualistic work and whom I had trusted would attend and gain instruction, love and enthusiasm for the work of their own lodge.

One degree each was exemplified by the three lodges of Guelph, and those who know the lively enthusiasm for Masonry that prevails there need not be told that the manner in which it was done was unimpeachable.

At the afternoon session, W. Bro. Law, W. M. of Waverley, with the officers of his own lodge, exemplified the first degree, and at the evening meeting W. Bro. Darby, W. M. of Guelph Lodge, with his officers, took the second degree, and W. Bro. Stephenson, W. M. of Speed Lodge, with his officers, the third degree.

The work of these Worshipful Masters, with the assistance of their own lodge officers, was all that could be desired, and the sincere thanks of myself and all of the brethren who witnessed the ceremonies are due to them for the most excellent manner in which they were performed, and also for the hospitality of Speed, Guelph and Waverley Lodges in serving an enjoyable luncheon in the banquet room at the conclusion of the evening session.

My own sincere thanks are due to W. Bros. Stephenson, Darby and Law for the hearty co-operation of the Guelph Lodges in exemplifying the work at this Lodge of Instruction.

At the conclusion of each degree opportunity was

given to the brethren to ask questions relative to the work, and it is creditable to those to say that a lively interest was displayed in the numerous points raised.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

New Hope Lodge, No. 279: On October 26th, 1898, my first official visit in the district was made to this, my mother lodge. The work for the evening consisted in opening and closing in the three degrees, examination of a brother as to his proficiency in the third degree, and an initiation. The work throughout was fairly well done, the W. M., Bro. R. G. Scott, being ably assisted by his Wardens and officers, also by some of the Past Masters, relieving him in part of the Master's work. The candidate who received initiation was Bro. W. A. Kribs, M. P. P., who will, no doubt, prove himself a very worthy member of the craft and do honor to the membership of New Hope Lodge. At the request of my brethren of New Hope Lodge, I made this my first official visit in the district and was tendered a very hearty reception. A large number of visiting brethren from Speed, Guelph and Waverly Lodges of Guelph, Galt and Alma Lodges of Galt, and Preston Lodge, were present to assist New Hope Lodge to do honor to the representative of the Grand Master elected from their own lodge. I was much pleased to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s R. W. Bros. A. B. Jardine, Alfred Taylor, R. Mahoney and A. J. Oliver, and received much inspiration from their kindly words of encouragement. New Hope Lodge has a very efficient Secretary in Bro. C. M. Shultz, his books being neatly and correctly kept. The finances of the lodge are in fair condition. After the conclusion of the work for the evening an adjournment was made to the Queen's Hotel, where an excellent spread had been prepared. After the inner man had been supplied a pleasant hour was spent in speech and song.

Speed Lodge, No. 180, Guelph: I made my official visit to this lodge on November 1st, 1898, accompanied by several brethren from New Hope Lodge, No. 279, Hespeler. The work for the evening consisted in raising Bro. Joseph Hadden, which was done in excellent form, showing proficiency on the part of all the officers. W. Bro. Lindsay, the W. M. of the lodge, is a skilled craftsman and a worthy successor of the many excellent

Masters who in the years that are past have maintained the very high standard that has always characterized the work of Speed Lodge. In my examination of the books of the lodge I found that the commendation bestowed by previous D. D. G. M.'s on the work of W. Bro. Parker, who has been Secretary of Speed Lodge for many years, was well deserved, as his records are models of accuracy and neatness. The finances are in a very satisfactory condition. It was a great pleasure to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s R. W. Bros. Scoon, Petrie and Hepburn, who so commendably maintain their interest in Masonry, and thus prove a stimulus to the members of the craft in Speed Lodge. I was also glad to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s R. W. Bros. Mahoney, Pettiford and Savage, all of Wellington District, and R. W. Bro. Mooney, D. D. G. M. of South Huron District, No. 4. After the lodge was closed luncheon was partaken of in the ante-room and a pleasant hour spent in social intercourse. In concluding my report on Speed Lodge, I am free to say that its work is of the highest order and its members are individually a credit to the craft.

Clifford Lodge, No. 315, Clifford: I visited this lodge November 21st, accompanied from Fergus by the W.M., Rev. W. H. Harvey, who, since his election to the position of Worshipful Master, was transferred from his ministerial charge in Clifford to one in Fergus. I was also accompanied from Harriston by my immediate predecessor, R. W. Bro. A. G. Campbell and Bro. McCullough, Master-elect of Harriston Lodge. There was no work for the lodge at this meeting, but at my request the lodge was opened and closed in the different degrees, and the officers gave such evidence of proficiency that I feel they are conducting the work of the craft so as to give it due impressiveness and effect. The absence of the W. M. from the jurisdiction of the lodge (through no fault of his or the brethren of the lodge), though not conducive to the best interests of the lodge, is compensated for by the enthusiasm and capability of his brother officers, who are assisted and encouraged by the presence in their midst of R. W. Bro. Dewar, P. D. D. G. M., who still retains all his old-time enthusiasm and regard for Masonry, as evidenced by his presence at this meeting, although just very recently recovered from a very severe attack of illness. The Secretary's books I found very neatly and correctly kept. The finances are in a

very satisfactory condition, and I am assured the dues are well paid up by the brethren. Clifford possesses a nice little lodge room, and the brethren possess the true Masonic spirit, and I believe true harmony exists in their lodge. I shall remember with much pleasure the kindly greetings and truly Masonic welcome I received from the brethren of Clifford Lodge.

Harris Lodge, No. 216, Orangeville: Arrived in Orangeville by early morning train on November 22nd, 1898, and after registering at the hotel had not long to wait before I was called on by W. Bro. Mann, who presented his respects, and from whom I learned that the note sent the lodge announcing my intended visit must have miscarried, and that they were in a measure unprepared for my visit. Nothing daunted, however, Bro. Mann soon made known my presence to the W. M. Bro. Smith and R. W. Bro. McLaren, who in turn waited upon me, assuring me of the welcome of Harris Lodge, notwithstanding the unexpectedness of the visit. The work of the meeting consisted of raising a brother, which was done in excellent manner by W. Bro. Dr. Smith, ably assisted by R. W. Bro. McLaren and W. Bro. Irvine. The work of the Wardens and floor officers was well done, and I feel that the work here is conducted with a due regard to its solemnity and effect upon the candidates. A very pleasing feature of the evening's business was the conferring of life membership in Harris Lodge on Bro. Davie Dick, a Mason of fifty-five years' standing, and who has been Tyler of Harris Lodge for 28 years. The event was called forth by the intended removal of Bro. Dick to Guelph, and at the banquet afterwards he was presented with a handsome Congo oak walking cane, suitably inscribed, and an address, setting forth his good qualities and commending him to the favor of Guelph brethren and the favor of brethren wherever Bro. Dick's lot may be cast. That Masonry here is in a healthy condition was evidenced by the excellent meeting, a large number being present, though my visit was unexpected. I have a very pleasant and grateful remembrance of my visit to Harris Lodge. The cordiality of my reception, the kindness of the brethren and the enthusiasm displayed will long be pleasing memories.

Scott Lodge, No. 421, Grand Valley: On November 23rd, 1898, I visited this lodge officially. I was met at

the railway station by W. Bro. J. A. V. Preston. Though the evening was stormy and cold, there was a large attendance and a good meeting. Scott Lodge is possessed of very comfortable, well-appointed quarters and is made up of the very best citizens, who all take a lively interest in the welfare of their lodge. The lodge is growing rapidly, as many as six applications for membership being presented at one meeting. They have held a number of emergency meetings in order to keep up with the work. The work for the evening was initiating Dr. Geo. I. Campbell, and was well done by W. M. Preston. The Wardens and floor officers are to be commended for the manner in which they presented their part of the work. I was pleased to meet R. W. Bro. R. R. Hopkins, P. D. D. G. M., who is as enthusiastic as ever in the work. The Secretary, Bro. Wm. McIntyre, is one of the best in the district. His books are models. The finances are reported in good shape. Scott Lodge is one of the most prosperous in the district. Good-will and harmony prevail. After the lodge was closed a first-class oyster supper was provided in the ante-room, and a very pleasant hour spent in song, speech and story. The memories of my visit to Scott Lodge are among the happiest.

Grand River Lodge, No. 151, Berlin: December 13th, 1898, was the date of my official visit to Grand River Lodge. W. Bro. Thos. Shaw, the District Secretary, accompanied me on this visit. There was a goodly number of members present, also W. Bros. Cowan, of Galt Lodge, and Baird, of Alma Lodge, were visitors that evening. The work for the meeting was two initiations and the election of officers. The ceremony of initiation was well done by W. Bro. Minchin, W. M., assisted by R. W. Bro. D. Forsyth, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Wildfong, P. M. The work of the Wardens and floor officers was excellent and added largely to the impressiveness of the ceremony upon the candidates. The W. M. elected for the ensuing year was Bro. Rev. Von Pirch, S. W., and under his able management, assisted by a staff of bright young men as junior officers, I have every confidence that the work of Grand River Lodge will be well done for another year. Their lodge room is an ideal one, well lighted, ventilated, and very comfortable. It was a pleasure to meet R. W. Bro. Forsyth, P. D. D. G. M., who still retains his deep interest

in the craft, and especially Grand River Lodge. After the lodge was closed a luncheon was partaken of in the banquet hall adjoining.

Alma Lodge, No. 72, Galt: December 30th, 1898, was the date of my official visit to this lodge, by the request of the lodge. It was an emergency meeting. I was greeted by a fair number of brethren; was very sorry to find the worthy Secretary, R. W. Bro. A. J. Oliver, absent on account of illness incurred by anxiety and too close attention to his duties in H. M. S. Several important functions were being held in the town, which explained the absence of a number of the members, but the enthusiasm of those present fully made up for the lack in numbers. There being no regular work for the evening, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a manner which proved much skill and care on the part of the W. M. and officers of the lodge. I have frequently visited this lodge, before being so highly honored by my brethren in the district, and always found their work of the highest order; and why not, with such an array of Past Masters as we always find occupying the dais at every meeting? It goes without saying that with R. W. Bro. Oliver as Secretary, the dues and books are looked sharply after, though I am sorry to note he has failed to move a few, through no fault of his. Alma's hospitality is proverbial, and the programme following is never excelled in the district. The memories of the evening spent in Alma Lodge are among the happiest.

Preston Lodge, No. 297, Preston, was visited by me officially on the evening of January 20th, 1899. I was accompanied by several brethren of New Hope lodge. The work for the evening was passing Bro. Henry C. Edgar, which was done by W. Bro. Miller and his officers in a very efficient manner. Preston Lodge, I am glad to say, has revived very much lately and now stands well to the front in quantity and quality of the work done. W. Bro. Miller is a very enthusiastic Mason and I have met him very frequently in other lodges. He is a very regular attendant at the meetings of New Hope Lodge. Past Master Bro. A. Webster still retains his old-time enthusiasm and skill in the craft, and is a great stimulus to Preston Lodge. After the lodge we enjoyed an oyster supper in the ante-room. This was a pleasant and enjoyable evening.

Galt Lodge, No. 257, Galt: My official visit to Galt Lodge was made on February 7th, where I was accompanied by several brethren from New Hope Lodge. The work of the evening was the initiation of Bro. Dr. Cameron, and it was well and effectively done. W. Bro. Pierce, W. M., is a live, enthusiastic Mason, and he is seconded by a staff of officers who are equally enthusiastic with himself and who display their zeal in work, well prepared and well put on.

Galt Lodge is having a period of prosperity in the addition of new members, and it can be truthfully said that the more of such members enrolled among Masons as the one made this evening the better it will be for the craft.

I was particularly pleased to meet R. W. Bro. Alfred Taylor, P. D. D. G. M., who retains all his old-time interest in Masonry, and especially the welfare of Galt Lodge, as also W. Bros. Cowan and Thomas, P. M.'s of Galt Lodge, who are old-time stalwarts in zeal for the interests of craft Masonry.

Among the visitors were W. Bro. Robinson, of Treherne, Manitoba, and W. Bro. Miller, of Preston, and a large number of visiting brethren from Alma Lodge. I cannot too highly commend the most excellent fraternal feeling that subsists between these two sister lodges, Alma and Galt. After adjournment a splendid luncheon was served in the banquet hall, after which a most enjoyable hour was spent in speech and song. The quality of after dinner entertainment provided by these Galt Lodges cannot be excelled anywhere.

Harriston Lodge, No. 262, Harriston: My official visit to this lodge was on March 13th. I was met at the station by Bro. E. W. Lambert, the efficient Secretary of the lodge. There was a large turnout of members at the lodge in the evening and the enthusiasm displayed augurs well for the future of the lodge. I was pleased to again meet R. W. Bro. Campbell, P. D. G. M., to whom I owe much for his uniform courtesy and kindly suggestions during my term of office. The work of the evening as exemplified by W. Bro. McCullough and his officers was excellent. The lodge room and furnishings are up to date. I am glad to note the interest taken in the affairs of the lodge by the large number of Past Masters who have been honored by their lodge, and especially to see so many elderly brethren in the room.

Too often the hoary heads are conspicuous by their absence. The Secretary is one of the most prompt and efficient in the district. After the lodge was closed an excellent luncheon was partaken of and the customary toasts duly honored. Everything connected with my visit to this capital lodge was pleasurable in the highest degree.

Guelph Lodge, No. 258, Guelph: At the request of this lodge I made my official visit on March 14th, 1899. The usual hearty welcome of the Guelph lodges was accorded me on this occasion. There was a large attendance of the fraternity of Guelph and Waverly Lodges. R. W. Bro. Mahoney was, as he always is, in his accustomed place in this lodge. The work for the evening was a raising which was done by W. Bro. Darby and his officers in such a manner as to be above criticism. The opening and closing in the several degrees was equally well done. I have never seen the work done better anywhere than in this and the two sister lodges of Guelph. There is a healthy, friendly rivalry between the city lodges which acts and reacts to the benefit of all. Bro. Pratt is a careful and painstaking Secretary. The dues are not as well paid up as they should be. The hospitality of this lodge is well known and enjoyed. I cannot close my report without thanking the W. M. and officers and members of Guelph Lodge for their uniform courtesy and kindness during my official career.

Durham Lodge, No. 306, Durham, was visited by me on March 21st, 1899. It was the stormiest day of the year. After reaching Durham I attempted to hunt up some of the members, but nearly froze up in the attempt. After 8 o'clock I started out to find the lodge room, which I did with some difficulty. Here I found a fair number present considering the very stormy night, the Worshipful Master and Secretary being the only regular officers present. As I had not met any of the brethren before, I requested them to put me through an examination by a board of trial in the regular way before admitting me to their lodge. This was only fairly done. The work was a passing which was not very well done. There seems to be a great lack of interest in the work of this lodge; why, I am at a loss to understand. Those whom I met are bright and well qualified for the work, if they would give it attention and promised to do better. I counselled frequent meet-

ings for practice in the work, and offered to attend any meeting to give instruction, and emphasized as strongly as I could the necessity of the officers attending the Lodge of Instruction to be held in Guelph during the month of May. This, I am sorry to report, was not done, as Durham Lodge was not represented at the Lodge of Instruction. The Secretary informs me he has a good deal of difficulty in collecting the dues. This was the only lodge in the district which failed to make provision for the expenses of my official visit.

Waverley Lodge, No. 361, Guelph: March 27, 1899, was the date of my official visit to this lodge. Bro. Wellington Keffer, W. M. of New Hope Lodge, accompanied me. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. I am pleased to note that in Guelph the brethren visit their sister lodges frequently. This can only be productive of good. The work for the evening was passing Bro. Chapman and was done almost perfectly, W. Bro. Law, his Wardens and officers giving evidence of the highest skill in the work, and are to be congratulated. Bro. Jackson, the Secretary, keeps the records and financial books in a neat and careful manner, and reports the finances in good shape. Bro. Prof. Kelley rendered two solos in his own inimitable style. After the lodge was closed a luncheon was done justice to and a half hour was pleasantly spent in conversation and listening to two recitations by Prof. Kelley, at which he is an adept. Thus ended one of the pleasantest official visits in the district.

Conestoga Lodge, No. 295, Drayton: I visited this lodge on the 28th of March, 1899. I was met at the station by Bro. Henderson, Secretary of the lodge. During the afternoon I visited Bro. Wood, who has been paralyzed for some years and unable to do anything, being almost helpless. He is bright and cheerful, and speaks highly of the kindness and consideration of the brethren of his lodge, and also of the Board of Benevolence of Grand Lodge, from whom he has received material aid in his affliction. The work of the evening was an initiation, which was fairly well done by P. M. Bro. Smith and the officers of the lodge. The work intended for the evening was a raising, but was changed at the last moment, and the initiation was gone on with. It is due to the W. M. to state that I had only notified him the evening before of my intended visit. The Secretary's

books are neatly kept. The finances are in a fair condition. After the lodge was closed we adjourned to the Queen's Hotel, where we enjoyed a splendid supper, a pleasant hour. The future of Conestoga promises to be bright. W. Bro. Clapp, of Harriston Lodge, was a visitor and gave some good suggestions and kindly advice.

Blair Lodge, No. 314, Palmerston: I visited this lodge officially on March 31st, 1899. I was sorry to find the W. M. unavoidably absent, but his duties were ably performed by the Immediate Past Master. A goodly number of members were present. There was no work for the evening. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and in a very creditable manner, but was not quite up to the mark at calling off and on. There has been a fair amount of work during the past year, and the prospects of the lodge are very good. W. Bro. H. Hyndman, Jr., is Secretary of the lodge and looks well after his department. The finances are in fair shape and not much arrearages. I was pleased to again meet R. W. Bro. Hyndman, Sr., who still retains his old-time interest in the craft. A splendid banquet was provided at the close of the lodge, and two worthy brethren, who are gone to seek their fortunes in Western Canada, were given a hearty send-off. Bro. Chapman, of Galt, gave two songs in his own striking and very impressive style. Speeches were made and toasts honored, and thus closed one of the most pleasurable and happy evenings of my official career.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 334, Arthur: The date of my official visit to this lodge was May 4th, 1899. I was greeted here by a large number of the members and eighteen visitors from the neighboring lodges, viz.: Scott, Conestoga, Wellington, Drayton, and one from Holly Lodge, No. 134, Michigan, and one from Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford. We had a very interesting evening. They have a fine large lodge room, beautifully lighted and well furnished. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in good form. The Rev. J. J. Paterson was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in a very impressive manner. The W. M. spoke slowly and deliberately, as should always be done, especially in this sublime degree. The Senior Warden was absent owing to a little misunderstanding which I have reason to hope will soon be adjusted. A light

luncheon was partaken of at the close of the lodge, after which an official Lodge of Instruction occupied nearly an hour, which was voted by all a profitable one. The members of Prince Arthur Lodge are a fine lot of fellows, made up of the very first citizens of the place. They have held twenty meetings and initiated ten candidates during the year. Their prospects of Prince Arthur are exceptionally bright. The recollection of my visit to Prince Arthur Lodge is one of the happiest.

Wellington Lodge, No. 271, Erin: Visited this lodge on May 10th, accompanied by Bro. Shaw, District Secretary. It was their regular meeting, and the work for the evening consisted of two initiations, a passing, and the election of officers, all of which was accomplished and completed in good time, proving that the officers are well up in their work and that each at the proper time promptly did his duty. W. Bro. Jackson, W. M., conducted the proceedings, assisted by R. W. Bro. Conboy, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Leitch, P. M., and the work done by these brethren, assisted by the lodge officers, was of the best. Wellington is one of the best lodges in the district and its financial standing is excelled by none. It is enjoying an era of prosperity just now in a large influx of new members, and each meeting brings with it a large amount of work for the officers to do. The candidates of this evening were bright young fellows and will make Masons who ought to do honor to the craft. The Secretary's books were in good order and are well looked after by W. Bro. Overland. It was a particular pleasure to meet R. W. Bro. Conboy, who retains all his deep interest in Masonry, and especially in the welfare of Wellington Lodge. At the conclusion of the evening's work an adjournment was made to the banqueting room, where a very enjoyable lunch was served. My reception here was most cordial, and I left Erin confident that the affairs of Wellington Lodge were being well managed and with memories of a very pleasant visit.

St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200, Mount Forest: I visited this lodge on May 19th, 1899. Was met at the station by Bro. Dr. Meikle and entertained at his home during my stay in Mount Forest. There was a good attendance at the meeting. The work was passing Bro. D. M. Baltour, which was very well done by Bro. Young and his officers, who are well posted in the work. I may state

that one and all are live, enthusiastic Masons, and the prospects of this lodge seem particularly bright. The lodge room is large, beautifully furnished and well lighted. A luncheon was partaken of at the close of the meeting. My visit to St. Alban's was indeed a pleasant one.

Ayr Lodge, No. 172, Ayr: My official visit was made to this lodge on May 23rd, 1899. I was accompanied by W. Bro. P. Jardine, of New Hope Lodge, Hespeler. We were well received by a fair number, Bro. Cassie, the W. M., and several brethren looking us up some time before the hour for opening the lodge had arrived. Here I found one of the prettiest and most tastily furnished little lodge rooms in the district. The work for the evening was passing Bro. Henderson. The Senior Warden was absent, as was also the Senior Deacon. Excepting the work of the Senior Deacon—for which there was a very reasonable excuse, as he was only acting for the regular officer—the work was very creditably performed. The candidate gives promise of being an expert craftsman. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and excepting a slight error in one sign and position by the Wardens, was very well done. The lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees when I addressed the brethren, commending them on the general character of the work and pointing out any little discrepancies that I had observed. I asked the Past Masters to remain a few minutes after the lodge was closed, when I gave them a few kindly hints on the secret work and obligations in the different degrees. The finances of the lodge were stated by the Secretary to be in a healthy condition. We then adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, where Mine Host Bro. Smuck, the genial Secretary, had prepared a very nice luncheon, which was done ample justice to, after which a pleasant hour was spent in story and social converse. Thus ended another of the happy evenings of my official work in the district.

Mercer Lodge, No. 347, Fergus: I am very sorry to report this lodge in a very weak condition. I understood from R. W. Bro. Campbell, P. D. D. G. M., that this lodge had had some difficulty, but had overcome it and were meeting regularly. Not receiving the usual notice of meetings, I wrote Bro. Jas. Philip, who, as far as I knew, was Secretary of the lodge. I wrote him

three times, with no result. My Secretary, W. Bro. Shaw, wrote him, the letter being returned from the Dead Letter office. On looking up the calendar I found that Mercer Lodge should meet on May 5th, and notified Bro. Philip that I would visit the lodge officially on that date, and would be passing through Fergus on the 4th of May and would like to see some of the members. Then I received a card from Bro. Jas. Beattie, stating that Bro. Philip had handed him my letter, and they would not be in a position to receive me on May 5th. I met Bro. Jas. Beattie on May 4th and he stated the lodge had not met for a long time. He had issued a circular to the members to meet on May 5th, and hoped they would again get into working order. This meeting was held with eight brethren present. Nothing was done excepting to instruct the auditors to prepare a full statement of the assets and liabilities of the lodge and report at an emergency meeting to be held on May 19th. Bro. Beattie had at the last election of officers been elected to the office of Secretary, but had not received the books from his predecessor, Bro. Philip. There were seven members at the emergency meeting on May 19th, and the Auditors' report was presented, which showed the finances to be in rather poor shape. The following is a minute sent me of this meeting: "Notwithstanding the small attendance and the state of the finances, it was resolved to continue our efforts to collect all the dues possible, and first pay off the liability to Grand Lodge and afterwards liquidate our other liabilities, as we have the funds to do so." I received the first formal notice of meeting from this lodge for June 2nd, 1899. I visited the lodge on this date officially. There were four members present, also W. Bros. Lindsay, Darby, Stephenson and Stewart, from Guelph, who had driven thirteen miles to encourage Mercer Lodge. We had an informal view of the condition of the lodge, and the ways and means of remedying them. The W. M., Bro. Goodall, a worthy fellow, felt keenly his position as Master of the lodge, and from what he stated I think Mercer will yet take her place among the lodges of the district; at least, I am satisfied he will do his best, and I would recommend that Grand Lodge give them a little more time to revive and get into working order. I was glad to meet the brethren from Guelph. None in the district exhibit a more fraternal spirit in visiting their sister lodges than those above referred to.

Irvine Lodge, No. 203: I visited this lodge officially on June 16th, 1899. I was met at the station by the Worshipful Master, Bro. Petrie, and driven direct to the lodge room, where I found a large number of members and visitors awaiting me. The work for the evening was a raising, which was done in an able and impressive manner by W. Bro. Petrie, assisted by P. M. Bro. E. Burns. The floor work was well done by the Venerable Deacons. With such an array of distinguished Past Masters and P. D. D. G. M.'s as are to be found in the east in Irvine Lodge, we look for the work to be nearly perfect, and it is. I was pleased to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s Bros. T. P. Smith and Savage, of Irvine Lodge, the latter giving us an interesting account of the history of the early days of Irvine Lodge. Among the visitors were P. D. D. G. M.'s Scoon and Mahoney and a number of P. M.'s from Guelph, and W. Bro. Goodall, of Mercer Lodge. Irvine Lodge possesses the only up-to-date register I have seen in the district, and I would recommend all the lodges to purchase a similar one in the near future. We had an excellent luncheon at the hotel near by after the lodge was closed. Prof. Bro. Kelley, of Guelph, entertained us with some very nice music and a recitation, which was much appreciated. Thus ended my last and one of the happiest official visits in the district.

DISPENSATIONS.

Dispensations were granted to the following lodges to attend divine service, viz.:

Conestoga Lodge, No. 295, on June 18th, 1899.

Harris Lodge, No. 216, June 25th, 1899.

Harriston Lodge, No. 262, June 25th, 1899.

I granted dispensations to the following lodges for attending funerals, and in none of these was a fee exacted, viz.:

Waverly Lodge, No. 361, to attend the funeral of our late Bro. J. C. Smith, Chaplain of the lodge, on July 28, 1898; also on June 23rd, 1899, to attend the funeral of Bro. Archie Strachan.

On April 5th, 1899, Speed Lodge, No. 180, reported attendance at the funeral of Bro. John Inglis; and on May 28th, attendance at the funeral of Bro. Allen McIntyre.

I recommended dispensations being granted to Wav-

erly Lodge, No. 361, to install their officers at 3 p.m., instead of 7:30 p.m., Dec. 26th, 1898; Guelph Lodge, No. 258, to install their officers on June 27th, 1899.

IN CONCLUSION.

I desire to tender my sincere and hearty thanks to the brethren of Wellington District for their kindness and assistance during my term of office. I have tried to prove that the confidence of my brethren was not misplaced by paying strict attention to my duty, and in my own humble way promoting the success of the craft. My services have been more than repaid by the whole-hearted hospitality and support I have received. As the representative of the Grand Master, I have been accorded the greatest deference, and I lay down the mantle of office with mingled feelings of gladness and sorrow. I am indeed glad to be relieved of labor and responsibility so onerous, but I am sorry to part officially from my brethren, for it has been a real pleasure to move among them. I desire to thank all those brethren who have assisted me and helped to cheer me on my way, R. W. Bro. Campbell, R. W. Bro. Scoon, R. W. Bro. Mahoney, R. W. Bro. Savage, R. W. Bro. Taylor, R. W. Bro. Jardine, W. Bros. Lindsay, Darby, Stephenson, Law, Miller, Preston, Dales, Shaw (my efficient secretary), and many others.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

R. J. LOCKHART, D. D. G. M.,

Wellington District, No. 7.

GRAND LODGE OF A F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Wellington District, No. 7, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem- bership.		Degree's conf'r'd			Affiliations.		Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Regular.	Emergent.						Total.											
72	Alma.....	Galt.....	90	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	10	11	21	\$75 00	June 25, '98	Al.	Good	Good	Yes	Yes
151	Gr'n'd Riv'r.....	Berlin.....	91	1	1	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	13	24	20 00	...	\$ 49 14	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	None	
172	Ayr.....	Ayr.....	27	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	11	12	24	22 00	5	168 00	June 11, '98	Good	Good	Yes	None	
180	Speed.....	Guelph.....	76	7	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	1	1	1	15	15	25	10 00	13	60 00	Dec. 24, '98	Good	Good	Yes	500 00	
200	St. Albans.....	Mount Forest.....	41	4	3	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	14	25	10 00	10	13 00	June 25, '97	Good	Good	Yes	400 00	
203	Irvine.....	Elora.....	43	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	11	14	5 00	5	37 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	500 00	
216	Harris.....	Orangeville.....	100	1	5	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	13	25	50 00	12	37 00	June 30, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Yes	
257	Galt.....	Galt.....	75	9	3	7	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	13	21	19 75	16	168 54	Dec. 28, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Yes	
258	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	79	2	6	3	5	7	7	7	3	3	1	1	13	14	25	12 00	16	100 50	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Bright	Yes	600 00	
262	Harriston.....	Harriston.....	58	5	5	5	7	7	7	7	9	1	1	1	12	12	20	6 00	23	94 75	Dec. 14, '98	Very good	Good	Yes	600 00	
271	Wellington.....	Erin.....	54	8	8	9	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	15	53 00	14	109 00	June 21, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	200 00	
279	New Hope.....	Hesperia.....	55	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	11	12	18	10 00	10	30 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	400 00	
285	Conestoga.....	Drayton.....	27	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	11	9	3 00	2	61 50	June 24, '98	Not good	Fair	Yes	None	
287	Preston.....	Preston.....	23	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	11	...	5	39 00	Dec. 28, '98	Fairly gd	Fair	Yes	300 00	
306	Durham.....	Durham.....	29	3	16	6	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	11	12	14	73 20	12	23 00	June 25, '98	Good	Excellent	Yes	None	
314	Blair.....	Falmers-ton.....	52	5	1	5	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	9	4	...	61 33	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Excellent	Yes	400 00	
315	Clifford.....	Clifford.....	28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	12	20	20	8	23 00	June 21, '98	Good	Good	No	400 00	
334	Pr. Arthur.....	Arthur.....	42	12	2	10	6	6	2	2	2	1	1	1	15	16	17	90 00	12	52 50	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	200 00	
347	Mercer.....	Forbes.....	89	2	4	7	6	1	1	1	1	3	6	2	15	16	17	15 00	4	...	...	Good	Good	Yes	400 00
361	Waverly.....	Guelph.....	81	2	4	7	6	1	1	1	1	3	6	2	15	16	17	15 00	4	...	...	Good	Good	Yes	200 00
421	Scott.....	Grand Valley.....	55	8	10	9	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	16	17	...	...	...	...	Good	Good	Yes	...

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In compliance with the requirements of duty, I respectfully submit my report of the condition of Masonry in the Eighth (Hamilton) Masonic District, and of my official acts as District Deputy Grand Master during the past Masonic year.

I have visited each of the twenty-one lodges in the district once—all but six of them more than once. In making official and unofficial visits I have had the company, the kindly assistance and the wise counsel of many distinguished brethren. It is not possible to give the names of all to whom I have been thus indebted; but I may be permitted to return special thanks to M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray; to R. W. Bros. Emory, Gunn, Holden, Hoodless, Malloy, Mason, McCallum and Miller; to V. W. Bros. Cox and Latshaw; and to W. Bros. Birrell, Breckenridge, Clarke, Crawford, Cunningham, Dixon, Elliott, Gauld, Greenhill, Henderson, Jardine, Kappele, Kittson, Lee, Levy, Matthews, Mercer, Montague, Morgan, Parke, Reynolds, Riddell, Smith, Somerville, Witton and Zimmerman. I have not felt at liberty to invite any large number of brethren to accompany me at any one time, feeling that the lodges themselves should be the judges of the number of guests they would entertain. It is quite possible to make the visit of the District Deputy a burden upon the resources of a lodge.

The general condition of Masonry in this district is eminently satisfactory. With very few exceptions, the lodges are prosperous, progressive and harmonious. The officers generally are skilled craftsmen; and, so far as I have been able to observe, the Masters of the several lodges are prudent and cautious men, able to rule their brethren with firmness and discretion.

During the year I have issued four dispensations, all

for permission to wear Masonic regalia while attending Divine service. I heartily approve of attendance upon church service by Masons as such. The public procession of the brethren, clothed in regalia, forms an object lesson which can hardly fail to have a salutary effect. The dispensations granted were to Seymour Lodge, Sept. 11; Dufferin Lodge, Sept. 25; Strict Observance, Dec. 18, on which occasion all the city lodges attended; and to Doric Lodge, No. 382; also for the whole of the Hamilton Lodges. I had the pleasure of attending with Seymour Lodge, Sept. 11, when brethren were present from Dufferin, Valley, Waterdown, Harmony, St. Andrew's, and from all the city lodges. The excellent and impressive sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Mr. Adams. A very touching part of the ceremony was the procession of the brethren to the several cemeteries in Ancaster, and the placing of flowers on the graves of departed brethren. Oct. 2nd a number of brethren from Hamilton, Dundas and West Flamboro accompanied Waterdown Lodge to church at Millgrove. A most eloquent and instructive sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Beavis. Oct. 9 a church service was held at Caledonia, when Rev. Bro. Adams was again the officiating clergyman. I was unable to be present, but R. W. Bros. Hoodless and Malloy and a large number of brethren from Harmony, Seymour, Enniskillen and Hagersville lodges were among the visitors. Nov. 20 a large number of the Hamilton brethren, as well as many from Union (Grimsby), Ivy (Beamsville), and from Harmony, Dufferin, Seymour and Burlington, joined the Wentworth Lodge in a church service at Stony Creek, when Dr. Beavis again officiated. Dec. 18, the city lodges attended Divine service at St. Thomas' church, when the rector, Bro. James, delivered an excellent and highly instructive sermon. The offertory was for the benevolent fund of the city lodges. Again, on the 25th of June, 1899, the city lodges attended church at the Centenary Methodist church, when Bro. the Rev. Mr. Routlege, of the First Methodist church, preached the sermon, which was one of great power and ability.

I have not, during the year, held any Lodges of Instruction. The brethren from the country cannot attend a lodge of instruction in Hamilton without staying over the night; and, to the majority, the expense of so doing would be felt to be a burden. On the other hand, if

lodges are held out of the cities, the burden upon the entertaining brethren is considerable, and no point in the district is easily accessible to more than four or five lodges. Considerable instruction has, however, been given, though not in the formal way. At Millgrove the first degree was excellently worked by V. W. Bro. Cox, assisted by R. W. Bro. Hoodless, V. W. Bro. Latshaw, W. Bros. Levy and Smith, and by myself. In other lodges I have worked degrees, in whole or in part, and have had assistance from many skilled craftsmen in doing so. A custom which I think of great value, and which cannot be too highly commended and encouraged, is that of officers of one lodge filling the chairs and doing work in other lodges. I think that, in the Eighth District, we owe this practice to the Temple Lodge, which, for some time, has been in the habit of inviting the Master and officers of some other lodge to visit Temple and to work a degree. This has a twofold effect for good. It calls upon the visitors to study their work carefully, and to render it as effectively as possible; and it directs attention to slight differences of practice which may have crept into the work. Not only have the city lodges thus interchanged working visits, but the custom has spread far beyond the city. On the 21st of October the Master and officers of Zetland Lodge, Toronto, paid a visit to the Lodge of Strict Observance, when the visitors worked the first degree in an excellent manner. The visit of the Master and officers of Wentworth Lodge to Temple Lodge, when the first degree was worked by the visitors, was another object lesson of great value to all who were present. I think that if these inter-lodge exemplifications of degrees could be extended they would prove to be more valuable than ordinary schools of instruction.

I heartily believe in encouraging the social side of Masonry, and think that the banqueting room is of high importance in promoting fraternal feeling. But I am afraid that in some instances the expenditure for refreshment has been beyond the means of the lodges, and has kept them poor. It would not do to lay down any hard-and-fast rule for regulating the outlay in the banqueting room. Still, the great disproportion in the accounts of some of the lodges between the outlay for refreshments and that for charity is cause for serious thought. Two examples set in this district have at-

tracted my attention, and are, I believe, worthy of commendation. The brethren of Wentworth Lodge, when the labors of the evening are ended, adjourn to a suitable place, and have refreshments served to them at a moderate price, each brother paying his proportion of the expense. This I understand to be the old custom among Masons, and I am sorry that it is not more generally observed. At St. George the brethren have an annual summer festival, which takes the form of a garden party, to which ladies and others not Masons are invited. There is no doubt that these festivals are highly enjoyable, and I think the example set by the St. George brethren worthy of imitation.

In addressing the lodges in this district I have, in every instance, I think, explained the desire of the Grand Master that earnest effort be made to restore suspended members to active usefulness in the lodges. So far as I am able to learn, these appeals have as yet little effect. The ground I have taken is that if a brother is unable to pay his dues the lodge should, from time to time, cancel his obligation and keep him good on the books. This can be done without humiliation to the brother, and without record of his name in the transaction. A motion may be made that an order be drawn on the treasurer for a sum to pay the dues of "a brother," and nobody but the Master and the Secretary need know who that brother is. But if a member can pay his dues and will not, there is no course open but that of suspension. Such men have not the principles of Masonry in their hearts, and the lodges are better without them than with them.

I regret very much that the practice of canvassing for office is still practiced to some extent in the district. This has been strongly condemned in Grand Lodge, and cannot be too severely reprobated. An office conferred by the good-will of the brethren is an evidence of respect and confidence, and, according to its importance, a testimonial of ability; but a personal request for votes is an acknowledgment that the solicitor could not on his merits obtain the suffrages of the brethren. Nor should systematic canvassing for candidates be encouraged. It is impossible to say how far effort in behalf of any brother is permissible; but it is very evident that the use of systematic and sustained electioneering methods is calculated to create cliques and to injure the order.

We are again called upon to deplore the departure of many of our brethren from the scene of their labors. The names will be found in the general list in the proceedings to be published. More than passing mention should, I think, be made of the death of R. W. Bro. John W. Murton, whose sad death was widely and deeply mourned. For a quarter of a century Bro. Murton had been identified with the Scottish Rite to such an extent that he has been called the father of the Rite in Canada. But he never lost his interest in the Blue degrees, nor ceased to teach that Craft Masonry is the foundation of all Masonry, and essential to its existence. Several times he filled the Master's chair; once he served as Grand Senior Warden; and for several years he was an active and zealous member of the Board of General Purposes. His remains were followed to the grave by the Grand Master, a number of Past Grand Masters, and eminent brethren from this and other jurisdictions; and his loss will be deplored throughout the Masonic world.

Without mentioning occasional visits to city and near-by lodges, and attendance upon church services, already spoken of, my visits, official and unofficial, have been as follows:

Sept. 28: Official visit to Harmony Lodge, Binbrook. The second and third degrees were worked by the Master and Past Masters. The work was creditable, especially that of the chief officers. This lodge has an excellent record. It is doing good work, has the best record in the district for the average attendance of members, and fully deserves the name it bears. The progress which the lodge is making is largely due to the active interest which the Past Masters take in its welfare.

Oct. 11: Official visit to Brant Lodge, Brantford. The Brantford brethren have a beautiful room, finely furnished, and they are among the brightest Masons I have met. Under the able guidance of W. Bro. Frank Brant Lodge has had a very successful year. The first degree was worked in almost faultless style. I was particularly impressed with the floor work, which showed patient and effective instruction and drill by the chief officers. I hesitate to praise highly the Master whose own work is correct, but whose subordinates show lack of instruction. I need have no hesitation in giving praise to Brant Lodge. I was pleased to see W. Bro.

Waterous and many members of Doric Lodge as visitors to Brant. There has been a little lack of cordiality between the two lodges, which, I trust, is changing for the better.

Oct. 21: The W. M. and officers of Zetland Lodge, Toronto, accompanied by a large number of brethren, visited the Lodge of Strict Observance, when the visitors exemplified the first degree in a highly creditable manner. The visit was graced by the presence of the Grand Master and many other distinguished brethren.

Oct. 25: Official visit to Waterdown Lodge. Since its removal to Millgrove the lodge has been doing very well indeed. It has comfortable quarters, is getting a number of new members, is in fair financial condition, and gives promise of taking a good place among the lodges of the district. There is a disposition to enlist some of the younger members for active duty in the lodge, and to put new life and energy into its work. Brethren from Valley, Dufferin, Seymour and several of the Hamilton lodges are frequent visitors at Millgrove.

Oct. 27: Official visit to Dufferin Lodge. This is a good lodge, with many active and zealous members. W. Bro. Trapp is one of the most expert craftsmen in the district. Some improvement in the quarters occupied by the brethren is to be desired. The junior officers had evidently been well instructed. Brethren of surrounding lodges seem to consider it a privilege to meet with their brethren of Dufferin.

Nov. 21: Official visit to Wentworth Lodge. This is one of the most active, zealous and useful bodies of Masons in the jurisdiction. It may safely be called a model lodge. Its oldest Past Masters and its youngest members vie with each other in zeal and activity. It is getting most excellent material, and a good deal of it; its work is done in an exemplary manner; its financial position is excellent; and its prospects are highly encouraging. W. Bro. Springstead is an indefatigable worker, and he has the cordial support of a large number of skilled Past Masters. It is possible for the brethren to improve their lodge room by making the approach more commodious. The custom of this lodge respecting refreshments is referred to elsewhere.

Nov. 23: Unofficial visit to Doric Lodge, Brantford, at the invitation of W. Bro. Waterous, when I worked the third degree.

Nov. 25: R. W. Bro. Hoodless and I made an unofficial visit to Credit Lodge, Georgetown, where a disturbing element has threatened the peace of the lodge. There have been a number of blackballings, and the affairs of the lodge are made known to the outside public. The situation is one that has given me considerable concern.

Dec. 9: Official visit to Acacia Lodge. The Hamilton lodges are all so prosperous; their affairs are so well managed; they work together with such harmony, and they so well exemplify the true spirit of Masonry that it is not easy to write of them without falling into mere panegyric. Acacia Lodge is in no particular behind any of its sisters. Under the able supervision of W. Bro. Levy, it had a highly prosperous year, and that prosperity appears to continue under the present Master. The election was marked by harmony and good feeling, each displaying a desire to obey the injunction to "esteem others better than himself."

Dec. 13: Official visit to the Temple Lodge. This is among the younger lodges of the district; but it has taken a place second to none. Its increase in membership has been greater than that of any other lodge in Hamilton; and I am happy to know that none but good material is received. Temple is unfortunate in having lost its Master, W. Bro. Livingstone, who has removed to Vancouver; but its affairs are well looked after by the Immediate Past Master, W. Bro. Zimmerman.

Dec. 15: Official visit to St. John's. This, in point of numbers, is the banner lodge of the jurisdiction. It closes the year with 355 members. It has given to Masonry many active and useful craftsmen. I think the attendance of Past Masters is larger than in any other lodge in the district. At this, the annual meeting, no less than sixteen Past Masters were present. W. Bro. Mercer closed a highly successful year and he is followed worthily by W. Bro. Sommerville. The Secretary of St. John's, V. W. Bro. McAllister, is justly praised for his efficiency as an officer and for the neatness of his books.

Dec. 16: Official visit to the Lodge of Strict Observance. Another lodge with an honorable record. Last year it celebrated its jubilee, and marked the occasion by endowing a ward in the new wing of the City Hospital. This is practical charity of the best character. The position of Strict Observance is of the highest char-

acter, its officers are Masters in Israel, and it is fully living up to its privileges. It is conservative in its methods, financially prosperous, and is in the best of honours. Immediate Past Master Parke was a model Master, and the present Master, W. Bro. Breckenridge, is fully maintaining the traditions and carefully guarding the interests of the lodge.

Dec. 21: Official visit to Burlington Lodge. The election was not characterized by that harmony which should always dwell in a Masonic lodge. Political feeling has unfortunately been allowed to pass the doors of this lodge, and its presence is doing a great deal of harm. We always agree that men may, and in the nature of things must, differ on many points; but it is equally certain that when sectarian or partisan feelings are permitted to influence Masons in their Masonic affairs, the result will certainly be disastrous. I can only hope that the brethren will see that it is absolutely necessary to leave their party feelings behind them when they enter the lodge portals.

Dec. 22: At the invitation of R. W. Bro. Hoshal, D. D. G. M. for the Ninth Masonic District, I visited Union Lodge, Grimsby, on the occasion of the official visit of the brother named. It was a most delightful visit. Union Lodge is one of the oldest in the jurisdiction. The brethren will celebrate the centennial of their organization in August, and there is no doubt that those who are privileged to be present will heartily enjoy the ceremonies. The Grimsby brethren are famed for their hospitality.

Dec. 27: By request I conducted the installation of the officers of Strict Observance, St. John's, Acacia and Temple lodges, assisted by R. W. Bros. Mason, Gunn, Miller, V. W. Bro. Cox, W. Bros. Clarke, Dixon, Kittson, Lee, Matthews, Reynolds and Witton.

Dec. 28: Official visit to Barton Lodge. This was one of the "high festivals" of the year. It was chosen as the occasion for presenting M. W. Bro. William Gibson a service of plate by the officers of Grand Lodge. Among the distinguished visitors were M. W. Bro. Malone, the Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Hungerford, Deputy Grand Master; and a long list of members of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Also W. Bro. Prowse, and a number of brethren of Washington Lodge, Buffalo. The presentation was made by M. W. Bro. Murray, and was

acknowledged in fitting terms by the retiring Grand Master, who made use of the occasion to say some very nice things of "the old Barton," his mother lodge. A banquet followed at the Royal Hotel, at which all the prominent guests were present. The Barton Lodge, now in its hundred and fourth year, stands in need of no praise at my hands. Under the Mastership of W. Bro. Witton it has fully maintained its honorable record.

Jan. 20, 1899: Official visit to Credit Lodge, Georgetown. W. Bro. Finlay worked the first degree in a very creditable manner. This is a good lodge, with an honorable record. Unfortunately, there is some lack of harmony among the brethren. Blackballings have been frequent, and the affairs of the lodge are made known to the profane, so that some of the best members of the lodge feel great discouragement. I hope that time and patience will correct the evil.

Jan. 23: Official visit to Walker Lodge. This is a small lodge, with conservative methods. The Past Masters are zealous and are doing good service. I think perhaps there would be more activity if some of the younger members were enlisted in the work. Harmony prevails among the brethren; the financial condition of the lodge is good, and the officers are well skilled. The outstanding dues are more than should be permitted, but the Secretary assures me that the sums are all good.

Jan. 25: Official visit to St. Clair Lodge. The Milton brethren are good Masons, doing good work, and they have a fine lodge. Of them I may say, as I have said of the Acton Lodge, that perhaps they should push some of the younger members more to the front. A considerable number of the brethren live at a distance from the town, and the attendance is thus made smaller than it would be otherwise. The Past Masters are zealous and attentive; and the lodge is prosperous and harmonious. The lodge is fortunate in retaining the services of W. Bro. Coates as Secretary.

Feb. 17: Official visit to Doric Lodge, Brantford. This is one of the most progressive and enterprising lodges in the jurisdiction. More than a score of candidates were initiated during the term of W. Bro. Watrous, and since his retirement the activity has been maintained. The third degree was worked in fine style. I was much gratified to observe, in addition to other visitors, the presence of R. W. Bro. Hoshal, of the Ninth

District, and R. W. Bro. Allen, of Toronto. Many of the officers and members of Brant Lodge were also present.

Feb. 21: Official visit to Oakville Lodge. This is a comparatively new lodge; but it has some excellent material, and is doing fine work. W. Bro. Ford was new to the work; but he worked the second degree in good style, and the Wardens and other officers showed that they had been well instructed. A number of able and zealous Past Masters give valuable aid in carrying on the work of the lodge.

Feb. 23: Official visit to St. George Lodge. This is in many respects a model lodge. After a period of comparative inactivity it took on a new lease of life, and is now worthy of earnest commendation. W. Bro. Fleming has his work well in hand, and has carefully instructed his junior officers. I was much pleased with the parts of the work which I saw. The Past Masters give valuable assistance.

March 22: Official visit to St. Andrew's Lodge. An excellent lodge, with a good reputation, and many active brethren. The first degree was worked in good style. The lodge room has recently been improved and partly refurnished, and is very comfortable and commodious. A number of brethren were present from Ennis-killen Lodge, York. St. Andrew's is a lodge one desires to visit again; but circumstances have forbidden me to make more than the one visit.

March 24: Unofficial visit to Wentworth, when all three of the degrees were worked by the Master and Past Masters of the lodge, with some assistance from visitors.

April 6: I visited St. George and worked the third degree.

April 19: Official visit to Seymour. W. Bro. Walker was unavoidably absent, but the first degree was excellently worked by W. Bro. Stewart, assisted by W. Bros. Daniels and Smith. Seymour is famed for its hospitality and the number of visitors is always good. The lodge is in fine shape, and is justly proud of the excellent material it has.

April 24: Official visit to Wentworth, when all three of the degrees were again worked.

May 22: Official visit to Valley Lodge. This is one of the lodges which give me some anxiety. There have

been differences in the lodge, which keep many of the members absent, and have a depressing effect. There is excellent material in Dundas. It is to be desired that the members, instead of absenting themselves from the meetings, lend their active influence to the restoration of harmony. I think that a somewhat better feeling is now exhibiting itself; and there is reason to hope that better times are about to dawn. The lodge room has recently been redecorated, and the brethren are in very comfortable shape.

June 19: Official visit to Doric Lodge. This was the last, and one of the most pleasant, of my official visits. Doric. This is the youngest lodge in the city, but it has made for itself an excellent reputation. For some years it struggled with debt, but it has now cancelled all its obligations, has a comfortable surplus in its treasury, and its prospects are very bright. Doric is fortunate in having secured for its secretary so excellent an officer as R. W. Bro. Emory.

June 24: By request of the Masters, I installed the officers-elect of the Barton and Doric Lodges, assisted by R. W. Bros. Emory and Miller, V. W. Bro. Cox, W. Bros. Bethune, Cunningham, Dixon, Lee, Matthews, Purrott and Reynolds.

June 26: Assisted by R. W. Bro. Miller in installing the officers-elect of Valley Lodge.

June 27: Attended the summer festival of St. George Lodge. A very pleasant entertainment.

In all my visits I have experienced the utmost kindness from all the lodges. The brethren of the Eighth District do not forget that hospitality and courtesy are Masonic virtues; nor do they permit any accredited Mason who comes among them to feel that he is a stranger. By this ceaseless kindness my labors have been made light, and my duty a pleasure.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. T. FREED,

D. D. G. M. Hamilton District, No. 8.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in The Hamilton District, No. 8, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degrees conferred.		Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	E. A.	F. C.						M. M.	Regular.	Emergency.										Total.
6	The Barton	Hamilton	318	3	5	5	6	9	2	1	1	6	11	8	19	100 00	100 00	35	\$127 50	June	Good	Yes	\$300 00
27	Strict Obs'r	Hamilton	271	7	7	9	8	12	3	3	3	6	13	13	31	45 28	45 28	86	308 76	June 24, '99	Good	Yes	Gener'l
40	St. John's	Hamilton	355	1	12	12	12	12	3	3	3	6	13	13	52	121 00	121 00	86	308 76	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Gener'l
45	Brant	Brantford	128	8	10	6	3	3	3	3	3	9	12	3	15	197 00	197 00	31	211 00	June	Good	Yes	1000 00
57	Harmony	Brantford	257	8	8	8	7	1	2	2	2	13	14	21	21	20 00	60 00	20	135 75	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	800 00
61	Acacia	Hamilton	257	8	17	16	14	2	6	3	3	2	13	14	39	77 01	77 01	45	135 75	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Gener'l
62	St. Andr's	Caledonia	36	3	4	4	3	1	1	1	1	15	15	16	17	...	...	4	13 75	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	150 00
100	Valley	Dundas	71	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	14	14	14	15	65	65	28	158 00	Feb. 15, 1891	Poor	No	500 00
121	Doric	Brantford	172	24	25	21	18	8	1	6	6	2	12	13	25	33	33	27	275 00	...	Good	Yes	1300 00
135	St. Clair	Milton	56	...	6	6	8	1	2	6	6	14	14	14	13	30 00	30 00	9	80 00	...	Fair	Yes	300 00
165	Burlington	Burlington	52	2	4	4	3	1	1	1	1	14	14	15	15	5 00	7	43 00	...	Good	Yes	600 00	
166	Westw'rd	Stony Creek	84	10	10	4	5	1	1	1	1	13	13	16	20	75 00	75 00	12	125 00	Dec. 27, '98	Solvent	Yes	267 00
219	Credit	Georgetown	54	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	12	2	14	48 00	48 00	19	100 00	Dec. 27, '98	Bright	Yes	450 00
243	St. George	St. George	45	4	6	6	4	1	2	3	3	15	15	20	20	10 00	10 00	6	100 00	June	Very good	Yes	200 00
272	Seymour	Ancaster	52	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	11	13	2	15	10 00	10 00	12	150 00	June 24, '99	Fair	Yes	200 00
291	Dufferin	W. Flamboro	49	1	3	3	3	1	...	...	...	12	12	3	15	35 00	35 00	6	35 00	Dec. 30, '98	Fair	Yes	Yes
321	Walker	Acton West	28	2	2	4	6	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	16	25 00	25 00	26	124 75	Dec. 30, '98	Fair	Yes	Gener'l
324	Temple	Hamilton	235	17	11	10	10	6	1	4	4	2	13	2	15	30	30	37	270 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Yes	150 00
357	Walden	Millgrove	42	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	1	12	12	1	13	13	13	58	79 00	June 24, '99	Bright	Yes	Gener'l
382	Doric	Hamilton	159	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	13	13	25	25	34	148 42	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	400 00
400	Oakville	Oakville	84	3	6	5	5	5	1	1	1	2	12	3	15	24 00	24 00	34	148 42	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	400 00

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to present to you my report on the condition of Masonry in the Georgian District, No. 9, for the year 1898-9, and am pleased to be able to record a most satisfactory condition of things. Whilst the old and prosperous lodges are nearly all holding their own, not only numerically and financially, but with respect to the character of the work done by the officers, their less prosperous sisters have made the most rapid progress and improvement. The most encouraging feature, however, is the renewed life and vigor which the two weakest lodges are enjoying. For some time past Simcoe Lodge at Bradford and Georgian Lodge at Penetanguishene have been very weak and unsatisfactory, so much so as to have called for a very decided expression of opinion from more than one of my predecessors; indeed one of the lodges has been on the verge of surrendering its charter; it is, therefore, with unmixed pleasure that I am able to report that both lodges are doing excellent work and making progress, both rapid and substantial; indeed, one of them bids fair to set the pace for many of the larger and more prosperous lodges, in the increase of membership of the highest order, and in the character of the work done, whilst the other is but little behind. It is a pleasant coincidence that this unexpected and welcome change should have occurred during my year of office, and I have no doubt that my successors will find both lodges thoroughly alive and progressive; indeed, there appears to be a great awakening and revival of Masonic life everywhere throughout the jurisdiction, which is, no doubt, largely due to the energy and ability of those distinguished brethren who have preceded me as rulers in this jurisdiction, but which, after all, has depended for its vital force chiefly

on the true Masonic spirit of the officers and working members of the various lodges. For accuracy and finish, the work in this district will compare favorably with that of any other district in your grand jurisdiction, to which fact, I believe, the M. W. the Grand Master will, to some extent, bear willing witness.

VISITS.

A detailed report of every official visit will be found elsewhere. I may state generally that I sent out a circular notifying each lodge that I should expect an opening and closing in the three degrees, the calling on and off, and the conferring of one or more degrees on their bona-fide candidates. This was done; and in case of no regular work I asked for the exemplification of at least one degree on a volunteer. In nearly every case, however, I had a bona-fide candidate.

I felt it to be my duty to take copious notes during the evening, and drew the attention of the officers to every mistake made, however small. Although in some cases this took a good deal of time, and must have occasionally left the impression that I was hypercritical, unnecessarily particular and too exact, I bear willing testimony to the unfailing courtesy with which the frankest criticism was always received, owing to the desire to be put right, which everywhere met me. It certainly made the unwelcome task of criticism much lighter and pleasanter, as well as, I think, more profitable.

NON-AFFILIATES.

I have long felt that the steadily increasing number of non-affiliates was a standing menace to the craft, and the timely and thoughtful words of the Grand Master determined me to make a special effort to redeem the growing evil. I therefore wrote the following letter to each lodge:

Office of the D. D. G. M., District No. 9,
Barrie, Nov. 28th, 1898.

Dear Sir and Brother—

Referring once more to the paragraph re non-affiliation in my first official circular, I would request you:

To read this letter in open lodge, to ascertain from every source the name of any brother now residing within your jurisdiction who is not affiliated and to send me his name and address with such additional facts as you think may guide me in writing to him personally. I shall at once send him a copy of inclosed circular (which please read in open lodge) accom-

panied by a private letter urging him to affiliate without delay, which may result in materially increasing the membership and efficiency of your lodge.

At the same time I earnestly ask your lodge to take action in two directions:

1. That the officers and members should see these non-affiliates and personally urge them to return to active membership, and that you should report to me if any of them stand suspended by sister lodges; if so, giving the name of lodge and other information.

That a committee should be at once appointed to enquire into the circumstances of any brother suspended, or about to be suspended, by your lodge with a view of finding out what arrangements can be made to restore him to his former place amongst you or prevent his suspension; even if it should be necessary to forgive him the entire debt and to make special arrangements for the future.

In my experience I have found that many suspensions have been caused by the neglect of the officers of a lodge to press (personally if necessary) for the payment of dues while yet the amount was small.

Brethren, let me urge upon you to "remember the peculiar moment in which you were received into Masonry," and to ask yourselves if it be not possible to cast the broad mantle of Masonic charity over your suspended brethren, and thus restore them to your fraternal circle and the fulness of Masonic light.

Let me assure you of any active co-operation you may desire from me whatever the labor involved, and "may the Most High prosper our united endeavors."

I am, courteously and fraternally, yours,

J. C. MORGAN, D. D. G. M.

P. S.—All information may be addressed to myself personally or to W. Bro. W. J. Hallett, District Secretary, Barrie.

To every member whose name was sent me by the officers of the lodge I sent out the following circular, accompanying it by a short personal letter, and, in addition, I extended an invitation to meet me on the occasion of my official visits:

To My Non-Affiliated Brethren of Georgian District, No. 9,
A. F. & A. M.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Among the serious problems which Masonry has to face and solve to-day is the question of demitted or non-affiliated brethren. The degree of injury that is done to Masonry by Masons in this way may be gathered from the fact that it is estimated that there are 750,000 non-affiliates in the United States, and the number in this Grand Lodge Jurisdiction is probably as large relatively. An effort is being made by the M. W., the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, to lessen the number, and he has requested his District Deputy Grand

Masters to assist him. Having been honored by my brethren with the position of D. D. G. M. of this District, I am endeavoring to induce every worthy brother to renew membership in his lodge or to affiliate with some other, as may be the more convenient.

In some cases a brother takes out his demit on changing his place of residence, postpones affiliation and gradually becomes indifferent. In other cases a brother thinks he is too busy to give the time to his lodge (only nine or ten evenings out of the 365), and so gradually drifts away. Sometimes a brother from sheer carelessness neglects his dues and—when they have grown fairly large—repudiates them and suffers himself to be suspended. There are also a few brethren whose Masonry cannot stand the test of a personal misunderstanding with another brother, and who do injury to their lodge rather than “endeavor to settle their differences amicably.” And there are also those who “perhaps from unseen circumstances of misfortune and calamity” have been unable to pay their dues, have been unwilling to say so, and have in consequence been suspended.

I have been informed, my brother, that you are a non-affiliate and that, in consequence, not only are you denied the pleasure of meeting your brethren “within the close-tyled door,” but that they lose the gratification of “greeting you as a brother,” and the lodge itself is deprived of the assistance and the renewed life and vigor which every good member brings with him.

I believe it to be a sacred duty (imposed on him by his obligation), which every Mason owes to the lodge in which for him “there was light,” to stand by his mother lodge, particularly when she is suffering from the temporary depression to which most lodges are periodically subject, and this duty is infinitely more binding on Past Masters in relation to the lodge which gave them their rank and honors. If he cannot attend his mother lodge, and there is anything in Masonry, his brethren in the nearest lodge have a right to his active sympathy and personal assistance and support.

On the other hand, I hold it to be only living up to the Masonic principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, for a lodge to deal most leniently with a brother who has suffered through his misfortune, not his fault, even should it have to go to the length of remitting his back dues altogether.

I invite you, my brother, to assist me in this good work. If you are demitted, affiliate without delay and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you the doing your duty by your brethren and the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of which we should all be proud. If you have been suspended apply at once to the officers of your lodge to see if you cannot come to some satisfactory arrangement with them and kindly let me hear from you promptly, being assured that you will have my active sympathy and assistance, and that you may command my services in any way that will serve your interests and those of the craft. You were once “happy to meet” your brethren, and I have no doubt “sorry to part” from them;

may you be soon "happy to meet again" "to work together with that love and harmony which should at all times characterize Freemasons."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours courteously and fraternally,

J. C. MORGAN, D. D. G. M.

As my efforts were met in a true fraternal spirit and most cordially seconded by the officers of the lodges, as well as by lodges outside the jurisdiction, the results were gratifying, although I did not succeed to the extent that I had hoped. My successor will, however, find his work in this direction made easier and more effective.

I cannot resist the conclusion that non-affiliates are, as a rule, quite as much "sinned against as sinning," and that the number of suspended members almost always depends on the "skill and ability" displayed by the W. M. and the Secretary, aided by the other officers of the lodge. It seems to me that in the general interest of the craft, Grand Lodge would be justified in taking action towards making the subordinate lodges in some way responsible for the amount of dues in arrear. Careful enquiry made during the past year, backed by my own experience, leaves no doubt on my mind that if the W. M. and Secretary were alive to their duties and actice, and had any assistance from the other officers of the lodge, 75 per cent of the suspensions would be avoided and the individual lodges would be much better off, financially and otherwise. I do not think that I need go into particulars. I have yet to meet an experienced Mason who does not know how suspensions are usually caused, and who does not agree with me in the statement made above.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Obeing the recommendations and requirements of Grand Lodge, a Lodge of Instruction was held in Barrie on 16th March, 1899, and on the testimony of those present few such events have been so largely attended or so generally successful. Over 200 members, representing nearly every lodge in the jurisdiction, besides visiting brethren, answered the summons to improve themselves and to honor M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, our popular Grand Master, who was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, Toronto District. The three degrees were fully worked by the brethren of Manitou

Lodge, Collingwood: Simcoe Lodge, Bradford, and the sister lodges, Corinthian and Kerr, Barrie. The work called forth the warmest praise from the Grand Master, the D. D. G. M. and other visitors, and a great many points were cleared up.

My warmest thanks are due to the officers and brethren throughout the jurisdiction for the active and enthusiastic support they gave me on the occasion of this Lodge of Instruction.

In this connection I cannot avoid mentioning the great variety in the rendering of the work, largely caused, I believe, by the widely different rulings which appear to have been given at different times by successive D. D. G. M.'s who have been quoted (or misquoted) to me in defence of certain unauthorized or incorrect practices. Lest I should add any note to the inharmonious chorus, I have refrained from giving any ruling, except as decided by the regular officials of Grand Lodge. I am unable to resist the conclusion that private opinion, or bias, has in many cases (within and without this jurisdiction) decided acts and questions which should have been determined by the proper officer of Grand Lodge alone. Liberty is one thing, license quite another, and unquestionably much greater uniformity than exists is desirable.

INSTRUCTION OF CANDIDATES

Of one more topic I desire to speak in order to enter my earnest protest on the insufficiency of the teaching given to our candidates. Nearly all are able to answer the "set" questions; a good many can give the 2.O.B's. a few more can give "prove to the Wardens" (without prompting by the Deacons), that "they are in possession of the secrets of the previous degree," but here, in the overwhelming majority of cases, the instruction ends. The candidates are not taught the O. B. in the third, nor do they subsequently pass any examination of this degree. But, above all, they know nothing of the harmony of the degrees, the meaning of any portions which are at all obscure, and they are ignorant of the symbolism of the Royal Art. Masonry to such candidates has no meaning; it is a mere body, beautiful, perhaps, but without soul or life, and therefore powerless to exert any influence over their intellects or their lives. Is it any wonder that instead of Masons enlight-

ened by the truths of Masonry, governed by its laws, warmed by its hidden fires, guided by its traditions and precepts, ruled by its truths, and influenced throughout their lives by its noble teaching, we have so many "members" who see in it merely a road to position, an asset which may be utilized for their personal advantage, or at best a pleasant pastime for idle evenings, and who, when the one palls, or the others fail (as they are all sure to do if there be nothing else), grow indifferent and allow themselves to be suspended or take out their dimits, not infrequently finishing by representing the craft to the outside world as an institution in which there is nothing to attract or to hold, which has indeed been their experience. Such men have looked on the outside of the temple, and have seen even that through a mist, but the doors to them have been closed; they may have got a passing glimpse of the casket; not a ray from the jewel has ever been seen; nay, its very presence has not even been suspected, and yet we, the officers, of the lodges are (shall I say criminally?) responsible for this. We wonder that some of our lodges do not prosper, and we are surprised that we have difficulty in getting good workers, or in awakening and sustaining any real enthusiasm on the side benches. I can bear witness to the effect produced on candidates by proper and systematic teaching, which may begin even before the candidate enters the lodge. Let us see to it that we do our teaching in this direction more thoroughly than has been our custom; the light must come from the east. In this connection it is an open secret that Masters are sometimes installed before they are able to give even one degree, to say nothing of the three, and that they finish their year of office very much as they began it. What effect must such men have on the candidates and the welfare of the craft!

DISPENSATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Several dispensations have been issued for Masonic funerals and attendance at Divine worship. A new lodge room has also been built and beautifully furnished in Bradford. This is now ready for dedication, but the Grand Master has too many demands on his time just now to perform the ceremony. In order to have the honor and pleasure of his presence, I have advised deferring the ceremony until after the meeting of Grand

Lodge, when he has been good enough to signify his willingness to be present.

I have been compelled to refuse an application for opening a lodge at Victoria Harbour, not that the necessary money was not ready, not that there were not a number of Masons "good and true" in the immediate neighborhood, nor that there had been any failure in complying with the legal requirements, but because experience in two parts of this jurisdiction, supported by the opinion of many other D. D. G. M.'s, has convinced me how fatal a mistake it is to multiply lodges unnecessarily; how grave a wrong is done to the craft by opening a lodge where it will be weak, and where its establishment must necessarily weaken a neighboring lodge, so much as to prevent its doing its work properly. One fairly strong lodge should be a credit to the craft, a blessing to its members; if divided into two they may work irreparable wrong to the individuals and do serious injury to the usefulness of the fraternity.

I have written up to date 837 letters on matters connected with the office of D. D. G. M.

CONCLUSION.

In bidding farewell officially to the officers and brethren of the various lodges in this jurisdiction, it is a pleasure to have this opportunity of thanking them for their unvarying kindness and thoughtful courtesy. Every effort which I have tried to make in the interests of the craft would have been vain had I not enjoyed their generous confidence and hearty co-operation; they have greatly assisted me in the discharge of my duty, materially lessening its difficulties and anxieties, lightening its disappointments, and adding generously to its enjoyments, thus making it indeed a labor of love and its performance an unmingled pleasure. I am painfully conscious of my shortcomings and mistakes, yet I trust that my brethren will throw over them the Masonic mantle of charity and render the kindly verdict, "At least he tried to do his duty." They will always have my kindest wishes and hearty co-operation in anything which they may seek to do for their lodges, or for Masonry. I shall never forget their loyal support and generous consideration. I hope that the many friendships formed during the year may never be broken, but rather grow stronger. Within their sacred walls may their

children, and their children's children, celebrate with joy and gratitude the constant recurrence of all their auspicious solemnities, and may the genuine tenets of our time-honored institution, our Noble Science, our Royal Art, be transmitted through their lodges, pure and unsullied, from generation to generation, strengthening and brightening the five-fold indivisible chain which should ever bind Masons together, till time itself shall be merged in the countless aeons of a measureless eternity.

Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford: Was visited at its regular meeting, January 20th. This lodge had for some time been in a very bad condition, so much so that on more than one occasion they had been on the point of giving up their charter, but, fortunately, better counsels prevailed, and now it is one of the most active and progressive lodges in the district. On the night of my official visit they initiated one candidate, passed two, balloted favorably on an applicant, and read another application. A reference to the tabulated statement will show that vigorous life has continued. The degrees were so excellently worked that I invited the officers to exemplify the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction, as an object lesson on what energy and true Masonic spirit can do towards awakening a lodge practically dead and ready to be "indecently interred." The result amply justified the invitation. The brethren entertained me in their banquet room with their accustomed hospitality at the close of the work and a delightful evening was spent, a pleasant incident being applications for affiliation from two reverend brethren (for years non-affiliates) who, at my request, were invited to meet me, and who will doubtless prove a great acquisition to the lodge.

St. George's Lodge, No. 88, Owen Sound, and North Star, No. 322, Owen Sound: It is the time-honored custom, in the good town of Owen Sound, for these sister lodges to join together on the occasion of the visit of the D. D. G. M., the result being always, as it was at my visit, a most brilliant success. The fine lodge was quite filled, there being a large number of visitors present, in addition to the members of both lodges. The east was quite filled with Past Masters, and among them we had the two veteran Masons, both D. D. G. M.'s, R. W. Bro. Creasor and R. W. Bro. McKnight. The occasion was the regular meeting of North Star, February

1st, and they accordingly opened and transacted their business, after which the officers of St. George's took the chairs and initiated a candidate in excellent style, under the able guidance of W. Bro. Campbell, whose good example has clearly acted as a spur to his officers. After this the officers of North Star resumed their places and exemplified the third degree in a very satisfactory manner, which was all the more creditable, as not only the W. M. but all his officers had been so recently elected and installed. The books, etc., of both lodges were very well kept. After closing down, an adjournment was made from honest labor to pleasant refreshment, and two or three hours were spent most enjoyably in their fine banquet room, where a substantial supper was followed by some excellent Masonic speeches. The attendance, as shewn by the register, was greater than at any previous meeting, and the brethren of Owen Sound can be warmly congratulated on the life and vigor which are so manifest in both lodges.

Manitou Lodge, No. 90, Collingwood: I have had the pleasure of visiting this lodge twice. On the first occasion I installed the newly-elected officers on St. John's day, in the presence of a very large gathering of the brethren. I was that night impressed by the intelligent interest which the newly-elected officers took in the ceremony of installation, and by their work in closing on that occasion, which was exceptionally good. This bud of promise bore the fruit of very satisfactory work on the occasion of my second visit, March 1st. There was no regular candidate, but a brother volunteered his services, and I witnessed an excellent exemplification of the initiatory ceremony. The fine large room lends itself to a military accuracy on the floor work, and this was fully taken advantage of. I desire to make special mention of the almost faultless rendition by Bro. Junior Warden of the fine lecture in the first degree. On this occasion, also, there was a large attendance, the east being well occupied, and among the P. M.'s were to be specially noticed the three P. D. D. G. M.'s, R. W. Bros. Nettleton, Toner and Aylesworth. The Collingwood brethren evidently believe in refreshment as well as labor, for at both of my visits they had a most pleasant fourth degree, followed by toast, speech and song, and the W. M.'s story, all of which were thoroughly enjoyed by the brethren and equally by the visitors.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie: My official visit was paid to this, the old banner lodge, on the evening of March 2nd. The attendance was very large, there being 76 brethren present, among whom were many members of Kerr Lodge, besides visiting brethren from other lodges. The east was more than completely filled, R. W. Bros. Monkman and R. E. Fletcher and a large number of Past Masters occupying every seat. Two candidates were very impressively initiated, one by I. P. M. W. Bro. F. N. Warren, and the other by W. Bro. F. M. Montgomery, P. M. The W. M., W. Bro. Cowan, then passed to the second degree a candidate who had been most thoroughly prepared, and who did credit to his instruction. The work done by the officers of the lodge was well nigh faultless, and, all the officers of the considered, was the best work presented to me at any official visit. The visiting brethren, with myself, afterwards enjoyed the fine banquet which was spread in the refreshment room, and after doing full justice to the good things there presented and listening to many a good speech and song, the J. W.'s toast was given, and we separated, carrying away a recollection of a most pleasant and profitable evening, whether spent at labor or in refreshment.

Pythagoras Lodge, No. 137, Meaford: My official visit to this lodge was paid March 13th. I had arranged a previous date, but as this would have interfered with the religious duties of one of the principal officers, by request I most willingly changed the date. Several of the brethren met me at the station, and for about two hours afterwards we held at the hotel an informal conference on lodge matters, which was most helpful to me, and I trust will prove of general advantage. There was a large and enthusiastic attendance at night, including a long list of Past Masters, and the regular work (the initiation of a candidate) was quite well done, in spite of the very evident nervousness of the W. M. A pleasing feature was the presentation of two applications for affiliation (as the result of an interview which I had with them) from two brethren who had long been out of practical Masonry; a good example, which there is every reason to believe, will be followed by others. The fourth degree, following the hospitable tradition of Pythagoras Lodge, was a perfect success, being marked by the most cordially fraternal feeling. At the request of the brethren,

I remained over until the next afternoon in order to conduct the Masonic burial service over Bro. MacRae, a former resident of Meaford, and an active member of Astor Lodge, New York, who, as a result of exposure during the Cuban war, had died at Hot Springs, Arkansas. His remains were at once taken charge of by the brethren there and sent on to Canada by his brethren of Astor Lodge, who asked Pythagoras to give him a Masonic burial. Over 60 brethren turned out, though it was a very cold day, to pay this "last tribute of respect to departed merit." So marked a proof of the "world wide universality of the science" must have a good effect on the outside world. The future of Pythagoras Lodge is very bright.

Orillia Lodge, No. 192, Orillia: This lodge was officially visited at its regular meeting on February 24th. With so enthusiastic a Mason as R. W. Bro. Roper, P. D. D. G. M., "the guide, philosopher and friend" of the lodge, and with the goodly array of P.M.'s who still remain in active membership, the work should be, as it is, very good. The excellent work of the officers was much enhanced by the beauty of the room, and the convenience and fitness of its appointments. Taken altogether, and considered from the standpoint of work, it is the most complete lodge room that I have visited in this grand jurisdiction; the scene for the third being particularly worthy of mention. This is all the more creditable to the lodge, as not long ago they lost everything in a fire, and, as it happened, they had at the time very little insurance. There may have been a good reason against the granting of any favor, but if not, any consideration at the hands of Grand Lodge would have been not only appreciated, but richly deserved. The work (an initiation, the ordinary openings and closings, calling on and off, etc.), was well done, and had the merit of being uniformly satisfactory, down to the lowest officer. Afterwards the brethren proved their proficiency at the fourth degree, which was fully exemplified and thoroughly enjoyed, until the summons from the J. W. parted for the night all members "leal and true." The prospects of Orillia Lodge are very bright, and the few enthusiastic brethren who bravely faced the dark days of adversity may now well feel proud at the result of their loyal adherence to No. 192.

Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie: I paid my official visit to this, my mother lodge, at the regular meeting, February 20th, the ordinary routine of the lodge going on as usual. As I am a regular attendant at its meetings I was quite prepared to find excellent work, and should have been surprised had it been other than satisfactory. A large number of visitors, in addition to the members of the lodge, were present, and all equally enjoyed the fine exemplification of the third degree, the ceremony of which was rendered doubly impressive by the splendid equipment and accessories of the lodge room, and by the excellence of the candidate, who was thoroughly prepared. The lodge is doing very well under W. Bro. H. E. Jory. I prefer to leave to others any words of individual commendation or the reverse, and shall merely say that the Masons of Barrie pride themselves on the fact that in few places will there be found any lodge doing better work than may be seen on any night in Kerr, or at her sister, Corinthian.

Beaver Lodge, No. 234, Clarksburg: With their accustomed courtesy, Beaver Lodge represented by the popular Grand Organist, V. W. Bro. D. Kent, and the W. M. Bro. Pedwell, met W. Bro. H. E. Jory, of Kerr Lodge, Barrie, and myself at Thornbury, February 21st. At 7:30 we drove over to the lodge room at Clarksburg, where I had the pleasure of assisting at the birth of their last baby, a sturdy infant of about 200 pounds avoirdupois, who exhibited a most intelligent interest in the new Masonic world to which he then opened his eyes. The work throughout was very well done by W. Bro. Pedwell and his efficient officers, the floor work generally, the charge and the J. W.'s lecture calling for special mention. Universal regret was expressed at the absence, through illness, of W. Bro. J. Dickinson, P. M., whose work as Secretary cannot be surpassed anywhere. After work we adjourned to the banquet room and enjoyed ourselves as only Masons can, toast, speech and song most pleasantly passing until the J. W.'s toast sent us "wandering out into the night." There were 40 brethren present, including R. W. Pro. Pye and twelve Past Masters, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. Beaver Lodge fully sustained its already high reputation for unbounded hospitality, and the domestic infelicity of two members of their menagerie, owned by "Miss Sarah Brown," "a meek-eyed donkey and a very martial roos-

ter," afforded us unbounded enjoyment. The prospects of Beaver Lodge are the brightest.

Manitoba Lodge, No. 236, Cookstown: I paid my official visit on January 31st, getting out of a sick-bed in order to keep my appointment, as did also the W. M. La grippe was very prevalent, so that two officers and the candidate were laid up, and at the last minute Bro. J. W., a popular physician, was hurried away on a sick call. This, with the indisposition of the W. M. himself, naturally interfered very seriously with the work, which was, however, better than might have been expected under the circumstances. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, called off and on, and a first conferred on a brother who kindly assumed the role of the candidate. The officers expect to have affiliations as the result of my circular. A most pleasant incident was the fraternal visit paid by brethren of Simcoe Lodge, Bradford, who drove over twelve miles on a very cold night in order to be present. R. W. Bro. Broughton, W. Bros. J. S. Boddy, E. Boddy, J. Ogilvie; Bros. Oldham, S. W.; A. E. Scanlon, J. W., and others were present and added much to the enjoyment of the evening. This visit is worthy of imitation by the craft generally; brethren exchange ideas and compare notes; the isolation from which so many country lodges suffer is lessened, and the fraternal bond undoubtedly strengthened, to the great mutual advantage of every one concerned.

Caledonian Lodge, No. 249, Midland: I arranged to pay my official visit February 14th, and actually went up for the purpose. On my arrival, however, I found that several of the officers had been summoned away by telegram that very day to Montreal on a matter affecting in the highest degree the welfare of the town; therefore, although I saw some work, it was not done by the regular officers, and therefore was useless as a basis of any opinion. At their request I joined them at the fourth degree, for which, in ignorance of the telegram, previous arrangements had been made, and I promised to return later. Meantime an unfortunate incident which happened in the town decided me on allowing them to recover from its effects. Finally a meeting was arranged for in June, but two days before it I was requested by the W. M. not to come, as some of the officers had gone up the lakes. There has been trouble within the lodge,

but I understand that it has been settled, largely by the tact and genuine Masonic spirit of Bro. Dudley, the W. M., and although things are very far from what I would have them, yet I believe that Caledonian Lodge, Midland, will not forget its old-time vigour, but will, in the near future, enter once more on a season of prosperity.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 266, Stayner: I made my arrangements for my official visit to this lodge in February, but was requested to defer it in order to give the officers an opportunity of improving themselves in their work. Being warmly interested in the standing of every lodge in this district, and particularly in one of which I had been for some years a member, I readily agreed, and postponed my visit until May 30th. The consideration was, however, thrown away. After waiting until after 9 o'clock the W. M. was unable to "make this lodge perfect," and no meeting was held. Nor was I able to examine the books, for although the Treasurer's book was there, he was not, nor was the Secretary. The audit had not been made, and I could not get the necessary books and papers to assist me in any way. Three candidates have been patiently waiting for some time for initiation (one was on hand on the night of my visit), but apparently there is neither the ability nor the willingness to confer the degrees, and no meeting has been held since January. R. W. Bro. Sanders, however, tells me that the W. M., Bro. Harold Sheppard, has got up his work very well, and as far as I was able to observe, this seemed to be the case. This condition of things proves conclusively how serious an injury is done to the dignity and usefulness of Masonry by granting dispensations to two small places, situated as are Stayner and Creemore. There used to be one efficient lodge at Stayner; now there are two, neither of which is, or seems likely to be, a credit to the craft, as a glance at the tabulated statements will show. It is clear to me that in the interest of Masonry one of the charters should be removed; which one should, in my opinion, be decided by Grand Lodge with as little delay as possible, for every day will increase the difficulty of decision and injury to Masonry.

Seven Star Lodge, No. 285, Alliston: I was met on Wednesday, March 22nd, at Cookstown, and driven over to Alliston; the roads were in a bad condition and we

had heavy rain, with a thunder storm, yet the attendance was over twenty, and to my surprise and great pleasure, the work was most creditably done, not only by the W. M., but by all the officers. My list of criticisms, as compared with those given to the majority of lodges, was small, and suggestions for improvement were received in the best spirit; indeed, very many questions were asked me relative to the work, and these showed an intelligent enthusiasm on the part of those present. As usual I asked for opening and closing in the three degrees and so on, and also witnessed a very creditable exemplification of the third degree. I was also present when a board of trial examined a visiting brother from Toronto. Seven Star Lodge may have been in a very unsatisfactory condition for years; of this I cannot speak, but if so it certainly is very different now. The brethren have a nice little room, equipped rather better than the average; their financial condition is good; the books are excellently kept; the work for me was well done; the utmost harmony seems to prevail, and the members will compare in Masonic intelligence and enthusiasm with most of the lodges. At about 12 we adjourned to their cosy banquet room, where a couple of enjoyable hours were spent, until we followed the electric light, and perforce went out.

Minerva Lodge, No. 304, Stroud: I paid my official visit to this lodge on the evening of March 21st. A large number of Barrie brethren intended accompanying me, but at 6:30 Bro. Bailey, Bro. Willis, J. W. of Corinthian, and myself faced a gale and started in a blinding snow-storm to reach Stroud. The roads were well-nigh impassable and it took us till 8:30 to cover the eight miles. A few brethren were present, patiently hoping for, but not expecting us. Under other circumstances there would doubtless have been a fair attendance. They opened and closed in the three degrees, called on and off, and initiated two candidates. The work was very poorly done, except by the W. M., who had evidently given some time and attention to it. However, the mistakes were carefully pointed out, and I promised that I would, if the brethren requested it, pay them a visit in a couple of months, so as to give them an opportunity of improving in the interval. My second visit was arranged for Monday, June 19th, but being called away by my official duties as School Inspector, I was unable to go. I have

learned, however, that the lodge has greatly improved. I have been one of those who have thought it a mistake to keep up a lodge here, only eight miles from two excellent lodges in Barrie, but after conversation with the brethren I have somewhat modified my opinion, and it is at least pleasant to be able to say that Minerva now seems wakening up. Two more candidates have been ballotted for and accepted, and they report others to follow. The books are well kept by Bro. Chantler, and the prospects of the lodge are better than they have been.

Prince Arthur, No. 333, Flesherton: Going down from Owen Sound on the afternoon of February 2nd, I had a pleasant drive to the lodge, where I was warmly welcomed by the officers of the lodge. The membership is not very large, and la grippe being in evidence everywhere, only a small number registered. Among those, however, are many enthusiastic Masons, including Past Masters Richardson, Bellamy, Mitchell, Dr. Carter and others. The majority of the officers appeared very earnest, and W. Bro. McGill's manner was pleasant and impressive. In view of the fact that two of the necessary officers were absent through grip, the work was very creditably rendered, whilst the routine work, calling on and off, opening and closing in the various degrees, was accurate and precise. On leaving the lodge room we found that the Masons' wives and daughters had spread in the refreshment room a recherche banquet, to which ample justice was done, after which a couple of hours were most enjoyable spent in the interchange of Masonic thought and sentiment until long past "the solemn tolling of the midnight hour." The prospects of Prince Arthur are brightening every day.

Georgian Lodge, No. 348, Penetanguishene: This lodge has been having an up-hill fight ever since the opening of "Caledonian" at Midland, only three miles away, and, indeed, but for the dogged devotion of one or two brethren among the veteran Past Masters, among whom W. Bros. J. J. Buckley and W. Bro. Geo. Wright should especially be mentioned, it must more than once have gone out of business. It is therefore with peculiar pleasure that I now report the lodge not only healthy, but vigorous and progressive. I drove over from Midland on Thursday, the 16th, and was met by W. Bro. Norton. The initiatory ceremony was performed on a most intelligent candidate in a thoroughly creditable

manner; indeed, knowing the difficulties which the present officers have had to overcome, its excellence came in the nature of a very pleasant surprise to me. The floor work was especially neat and accurate. Two applications have already come in, and several have asked for admission in the near future, so that the success of the lodge is assured. The attendance was large, being materially increased by the fraternal visit of the W. M. and several of the brethren from Caledonian Lodge. On the occasion of my visit two prominent citizens who had withdrawn applied for reaffiliation, and it is hoped that others will follow their excellent example. The fourth degree was a great success, about 50 sitting down to well-furnished tables, at which three hours were most pleasantly spent in Masonic manner until the J. W.'s toast made us indeed "sorry to part."

Lorne Lodge, No. 377, Shelburne: Here again the ravages of la grippe kept away more than one of the officers and half the membership, and thus prevented the lodge from making the excellent showing of which Lorne Lodge is capable. In addition to these difficulties my visit on February 3rd was the first occasion on which the W. M. had been able to be present since his installation. In spite of this, however, his work was most creditable, and Bro. S. W. was also good. In Bro. Junior Warden's absence, a "tried and true" Past Master, W. Bro. Douglas took his place and filled it with credit to himself and profit to the lodge, his lecture in the south being very impressively given. General regret was felt at the absence, through severe illness, of W. Bro. Mason, the popular Secretary of the lodge. Several visiting brethren contributed to increase the enjoyment of the evening's banquet, which was in accordance with the traditions of the lodge. The slight difference between Lorne Lodge and the brethren of the surrounding district seems to have passed away, and all misunderstanding has been removed by the election of W. Bro. Symington, of Dundalk, to the East. The lodge itself is slowly recovering from the recent disastrous fire; the room is good, the appointments fair, and they are being gradually improved. A reverend brother reaffiliated on the occasion of my visit, and the brethren believe this good example will be quickly followed by others.

Spry Lodge, No. 385, Beeton: I visited this lodge on the evening of March 29th. Contingents from Al-

liston and Bradford had promised attendance, but the almost impassable roads not only prevented their being present, but kept away many of the members, so that the attendance was small. It was therefore quite late when the lodge was opened. I was much pleased by the exemplification of the third degree on a bona-fide candidate, and I had scarcely any criticism of importance to make on the working of the lodge, the floor work being thoroughly accurate. I was also much gratified by the care which had evidently been given to the instruction of the candidate. The books were neat and accurate kept, and the dues well paid up. The room is nicely furnished, fairly equipped and very comfortable. W. Bro. Croft is to be congratulated on the condition of his lodge, and on the enthusiasm which he and his officers display. At the close of the work we adjourned to the pleasant banquet prepared by the hospitality of the brethren, but account of the lateness of the hour no toasts were proposed except the time-honored one "The Queen and the Craft," which brought our banquet to a close shortly after 12.

Nitetis Lodge, No. 444, Creemore: I paid one official visit on December 28th, having only a small attendance. W. Bro. Joseph Hood took the chair, opened and closed in the three degrees, and conferred a second degree. W. Bro. Hood's work is well known, and the J. W., Bro. Brown, is evidently both capable and ambitious, but the S. W. was absent at both visits, and it is difficult for two officers to carry the work through satisfactorily without the active co-operation of their colleagues. I earnestly hope that for the sake of the enthusiastic Masons who are interested in the success of the lodge, the granting of the charter may eventually prove to be in the interests of the craft. At this visit I regularly constituted the lodge and handed over the charter. At the request of the M. W. the G. M., I paid a second visit, February the 28th, for the purpose of seeing that their by-laws were made regular and legal, and in order to correct irregularities which existed in the election and installation of officers. Although only seven were present I was received with every courtesy by them, and with W. Bro. Hood's assistance I left them in good shape. If Nitetis is to prosper, however, or even to exist, the officers must be ready to make some sacrifice of their business, and of themselves, in order to advance her interests; in

fact, Masonry must be put first, personal considerations nowhere.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. C. MORGAN, D. D. G. M.,
Georgian District No. 9.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Georgetown District, No. 9, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.			Degre's conf'd			Affi-li-ations.	Res-tor-ations.	Sus-pen-sions, N. P. D.	Sus-pen-sions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Decrease during year	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.						Regular.	Emergency.	Total.									
79	Simcoe....	Bradford..	35	6	9	6	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	11	12	13	14	50 00	20	\$ 5 75	Dec. '98	Good.	Exc'l'l't.	Yes	\$250 00
88	St. George's	Owen Sound..	87	7	7	7	4	5	2	1	9	2	2	14	4	18	18	50 00	20	250 00	June '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	Full.
90	Manito....	Collingwood..	116	7	14	6	4	5	2	1	1	1	1	14	2	16	35	52 00	25	150 00	June '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	800 00
96	Corinthian	Barrie.....	137	7	9	10	7	6	2	3	1	1	1	12	4	16	39	61 00	4	21 00	Dec. '98	Exc'l'l't.	Exc'l'l't.	Yes	Full.
137	Pythagoras	Meaford.....	50	5	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	13	5	18	18	56 00	10	45 00	Dec. '98	Good.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
192	Orillia.....	Orillia.....	90	9	6	9	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	11	1	12	25	56 00	10	45 00	June '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
230	Kerr.....	Barrie.....	94	7	7	6	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	1	15	22	30 00	6	100 00	June '98	Cl ar.	Good.	Yes	insured
234	Beaver....	Clarksburg..	56	5	5	5	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	18	18	30 00	6	33 00	Dec. '98	Good.	First cl'ss	Yes	300 00
236	M. ni oba..	Cookstown..	32	6	5	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	15	10	17 50	16	71 25	Jan. '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
249	Caledonia..	Midland.....	59	4	2	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	11	13	14	20	17 50	16	71 25	Dec. '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
265	Nor. Light.	Staver.....	35	7	1	5	4	6	1	1	1	1	1	7	1	8	9	86 75	6	86 75	June '97	Good.	Poor.	Yes	None.
285	Seven Star.	Alliston.....	36	7	1	5	4	6	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	14	14	15 00	4	10 00	June '98	Good.	Very good	Yes	75 00
304	Minerva...	Stroud.....	20	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	8	1	9	10	15 00	4	10 00	Dec. '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	75 00
322	North Star.	Owen Sound..	70	11	12	7	6	7	4	4	17	1	1	14	3	17	12	50 00	10	46 00	Dec. '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	600 00
333	Pr. Arthur.	Flesherton...	34	11	12	7	6	7	4	4	17	1	1	14	3	17	12	50 00	10	46 00	June '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	150 00
348	Georgian...	Penetang.....	28	8	2	7	6	2	1	1	1	1	1	8	5	13	12	24 00	5	24 00	Dec. '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
377	Lorne *...	Shelburne.....	54	7	4	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	13	2	15	17	5	49 40	Dec. '98	Fr. of debt	Good.	Yes	300 00
385	Spry.....	Beeton.....	31	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	10	12	4 50	1	4 50	Dec. '98	Good.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
444	Ntets.....	Greenore.....	23	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	2	14	10	.....	.....	.....	June '98	Sound.	Good.	Yes	None.

* Furnished new Lodge and had Masonic funeral, and so had no funds.

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to present this my report on the condition of Masonry in District No. 10, and a record of my acts as your representative in Niagara District, No. 10, during the past year.

My first official act was to appoint Wor. Bro. Rev. C. Scudamore, of Enniskillen, No. 185, as Chaplain for the district, whose zeal and activity as a Mason pointed him out to me as worthy of that honor.

I have visited each of the 21 lodges in the district and am exceedingly pleased to say that I was received with the most unvarying kindness and courtesy. In most of the lodges I had the opportunity of witnessing degrees conferred, and where I found that there was no work I had the W. M. open and close in the three degrees. In this way I have had very good opportunity of judging the character of the work as performed in each, and as to the fitness of the officers for their positions. I found in every instance the W. M. was capable of conferring the degrees, and in some cases the entire work as performed by the W. M. and his staff was of a high standard and deserving of much commendation. In fact the work as performed throughout the entire district is fairly uniform and quite in accordance with the regulations of Grand Lodge.

I noticed with a great deal of pleasure, when making my visits, the invariably good attendance of the P. M.'s, who by their presence aid so materially in keeping up the zeal and energy of the younger members, as well as assisting by their advice and experience in administering the affairs of the lodge.

The year has been marked by a fair degree of prosperity in the district, though perhaps not so great as I could have wished. The greatest harmony prevails, all

rejoicing in the steady and noiseless bounds of general prosperity our order is enjoying throughout the world. I have tried to impress upon the officers and members the good effect of frequent visits upon the brethren, not only in good fellowship, but in bringing about uniformity of work.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Niagara Lodge, No. 2, Niagara-on-the-Lake: I visited this lodge on Wednesday, October 26th, 1898, the regular meeting. For some reason not accounted for, no notice of my visit had been given the membership, so that the attendance was not perhaps as large as I had anticipated. However, "Old Niagara" confirmed on this occasion all the very pleasant things that have been reported of her by my various predecessors. In the absence of degree work at my request the W. M., W. Bro. Lyall, ably assisted by his staff, opened and closed in the several degrees in a very satisfactory manner. The proverbial generous hospitality of this, the premier, lodge was very much in evidence. P. M. Wor. Bro. Fred Best, Mayor of the town, ably assisted by Bro. Dr. Chrysler, apparently considered it necessary to surround my person with the protecting care, for which reason during my stay in the historic old town any chance complain of loneliness was completely removed. Their courteous attentions shall not be forgotten.

Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby: Visited this lodge on their regular meeting, Dec. 22, 1898. The attendance of members and visitors (notwithstanding the annual High School closing exercises falling on the same evening) was good. There being no degree work, the W. M., very ably assisted by his subordinate officers, opened and closed in the three degrees in a most satisfactory manner. To me this visit was made especially enjoyable by having in attendance R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, D. D. G. M. of the Hamilton District, whose polished eloquence and genial manner was highly appreciated; also Wor. Bro. J. W. Jardine, W. M. of Wentworth Lodge, No. 166. The officers and members of No. 7 succeeded most admirably in making the social function a charming one. They were busily arranging for their approaching centennial, which event I am quite sure will be red-letter day in the history of Grimsby. Their rooms are handsome and kept in the most perfect order. In fact,

Union, No. 7, is certainly among the foremost lodges in my jurisdiction. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. Sykes, is most careful and painstaking; his records are certainly model ones.

St. George, No. 15, St. Catharines: Visited at regular, January 24th, 1899. The work for the evening was the conferring of the Entered Apprentice Degree, which was very creditably exemplified by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Dr. Merritt, the Wardens and other officers. The tracing board lecture in the south was particularly well rendered. Attendance was fair. R. W. Bro. C. H. Connors, P. D. D. G. M. for this district, and a number of P. M.'s, W. M.'s and members of the other city lodges, were in attendance. The books of the lodge are very neatly and correctly kept, Bro. Lindsay being one of the model Secretaries of the district. The W. M. informed me that they were assured in the very near future a number of most desirable petitions would be before the lodge. A most recherche dinner at the Welland House, generously attended by members of No. 15 and visitors, was evidence to me of the culture and refined taste of St. George.

Amity, No. 32, Dunnville: Visited this lodge at the regular meeting, Dec. 27, 1898, anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. The installation of the officers for the ensuing year was the only work, which interesting ceremony I performed, Wor. Bro. G. D. Robertson, the W. M.; Bro. T. W. Brown, S. W.; Bro. Thos. Marshall, J. W., impressing me most favorably with their methods and manners. V. W. Bro. Wm. Braund, the Secretary, is too well known a Mason to require any comment. The attendance was large. More than the usual number of highly distinguished brethren were present; four P. D. D. G. M.'s, viz., R. W. Bros. John Parry, T. L. M. Tipton, S. Amsden, of Unity, and R. W. Bro. W. Jacques, of King Solomon, 329; also R. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon, of Amity, Grand Registrar. A number of P. M.'s, W. M.'s and brethren from the neighboring lodges were in attendance. From the very general opinion of the officers, I am led to hope that No. 32 is entering a period of marked prosperity. A banquet served at Bro. F. Ardeley's and presided over by Wor. Bro. G. D. Robertson in a very polished and charming manner, concluded one of my most pleasant visits.

St. John's, No. 35, Cayuga: I visited officially at the

regular, April 27th, 1899. The turnout was fair. This lodge is growing numerically very rapidly and certainly is enjoying great prosperity. The W. M., Wor. Bro. L. L. Barber, and his subordinate officers gave me a very fair exemplification of the work in the second degree. A candidate was raised to the sublime degree, the east being filled by Wor. Bro. Sommerville, of St. John's lodge, No. 40, Hamilton, in a most charmingly natural and unaffected manner. St. John's is deeply indebted to V. W. Bro. I. G. Carruthers for his untiring zeal and generous assistance, and much, indeed, of the prosperity she now enjoys is due to his efforts. Her able and long-serving Secretary, Wor. Bro. C. C. Gibson, is another model officer.

Maple Leaf, No. 103, St. Catharines: This is the strongest lodge in my district. I visited on Thursday, Jan'y. 26th, 1899, the regular meeting. The attendance of members and visitors was fair. The work for the evening was the sublime degree. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Hodgins, assisted by P. M.'s Merriman, Sutherland and R. W. Bro. H. Johnson, P. D. D. G. M. of District No. 10, gave all present a most pleasing and convincing example of how exceedingly interesting really impressive work is. R. W. Bro. H. Johnston was elected Secretary to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Parnell. The R. W. Bro., from his long experience and superior advantages, should be of great service to Male Leaf. The prospects of this lodge are certainly very promising, being officered by bright and capable Masons, so ably aided and assisted by zealous and willing P. M.'s. The function closed with a banquet at the Grand Central, a most enjoyable and profitable adjunct to a charming evening. I desire to make especial mention of the very kindly and courteous attention shown me by R. W. Bro. C. H. Connors, not only at this, but on each of the three official visits I paid to the metropolis of the Niagara District.

St. Mark's, No. 105, Niagara Falls South: Visited this lodge at regular meeting on 22nd November, 1898. There was a fair attendance of the members, together with a number of visitors from several of the neighboring lodges. Being no degree work, the W. M., Wor. Bro. H. F. Garner, opened and closed in the three degrees in a very creditable manner. The election of the officers for the ensuing year resulted apparently to the

entire satisfaction of all, Bro. Hull, their exceedingly efficient Secretary, being elected to the east. My visit to St. Mark's was rendered especially enjoyable by the presence of Wor. Bros. G. R. Powell, C. C. Gibson, L. L. Barber; Bros. J. E. Skiel and H. E. Burrows, of St. John's Lodge, No. 35, Cayuga; also Bros. Dr. D. E. Russell, of St. Andrew's, No. 62, Caledonia, and W. J. Allan, of Strict Observance, Hamilton. These brethren very kindly escorted me from Cayuga. We were all most sumptuously entertained at the Prospect House by the brethren of St. Mark's.

Ivy, No. 115, Beamsville: Visited this lodge at the regular meeting, April 25th, 1899. On my arrival in Beamsville I was welcomed by the genial and polished "Andy." All Masons who have enjoyed a visit to Ivy will recognize V. W. Bro. A. Simpson by this name better than any other, I am quite sure. The candidate expected for a raising did not materialize, consequently opening and closing the lodge in the three degrees was the only work I witnessed, but from the manner in which this was performed I feel quite sure that the work done in old Ivy is certainly up to the standard. After the meeting all visitors, and there were a number present, were entertained in the now famous manner known only to the Masons of Beamsville. The visit was made exceedingly pleasant to me by all.

Merritt, No. 168, Welland: Visited at the regular May 22nd, 1899. Attendance of members and visitors good. The work, an initiation, was performed in a most charming manner by Wor. Bro. Crow, a P. M. of Merritt Lodge. His support from the other officers was almost faultless, especially the lecture from the south, which was given by Bro. Simpson, of Ivy Lodge, in an unusually impressive style. The two lodges in Welland suffered a serious set-back in June, 1898, losing absolutely everything by fire, but I am exceedingly pleased to see that they now are again meeting in new and handsomely appointed quarters. Harmony and good fellowship is very much in evidence. The Secretary and W. M. pro tem. both assured me that their prospects were of the most roseate character. After closing the lodge refreshments were served in the banqueting room adjoining. Speeches, music, etc.

Macnab, No. 169, Port Colborne: My visit was made

21st February, 1899; the regular meeting. There was a very good turn out. The evening being very wet and disagreeable, no doubt interfered considerably with the attendance. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Mathews, in the absence of other work, opened and closed in the several degrees in a very creditable manner. The assistance rendered him by his staff was certainly very satisfactory, particularly when we knew that this was only the second meeting they had since their installation in their different chairs. The books are neatly and carefully kept. Bro. Cook being a most painstaking and zealous Secretary. Macnab Lodge has, I think, good prospects.

Enniskillen, No. 185, York: This lodge I visited on Sept. 27, 1898. The attendance was good. Officers and members evince great interest in the order and expressed a most commendable desire to improve their lodge. The W. M., Bro. Scudamore, assisted by P. M.'s Wm. Clark and Thompson, conferred the sublime degree. Their style of work requires great improvement to render it even fair. However, the W. M. and Wardens promised me greater attention to this, and I have no doubt they will apply themselves at once. The books are not in as satisfactory a condition as I could wish, and I trust my successor may find and be honestly able to report an all-round improvement in my old neighbor, Enniskillen.

Mountain, No. 221, Thorold: My visit to this lodge was on Nov. 23rd, 1898. Attendance was fair. In the absence of other work the W. M., Wor. Bro. Fraser, opened and closed in the different degrees correctly. The assistance rendered him by his subordinates was all that could be desired. I found at the Secretary's desk the brother mentioned by so many of my predecessors, Bro. Fish, whose long service in this position evidences Masonic zeal seldom equalled. The brethren of Mountain completely overwhelmed me with their generous hospitality. A very pleasant feature of the meeting to me was the presence of so many P. M.'s. This lodge room is among the finest in the district, and No. 221 should aim to continue in the front rank.

Clifton, No. 254, Niagara Falls, Ont.: I visited Clifton at their regular on 2nd February, 1899. The attendance was splendid, there being a number of visitors from the neighboring New York State Lodges as well as a large turnout of members. Two candidates were ini-

tiated. The work was performed in a most impressive and polished manner. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Wood, the S. W., Bro. J. O. Doran, the J. W., Bro. Baker, all displayed more than the usual careful preparation; also the floor work of the J. G. was excellent. The Secretary, Bro. Gray, is evidently very painstaking and enthusiastic. They have comfortable and well furnished rooms, are certainly in a most thrifty and prosperous condition, perfect harmony and the greatest enthusiasm prevailing. Clifton Lodge is undoubtedly one of the finest in Western Ontario. My old friend, R. W. Bro. Coy, P. D. D. G. M. of this district, was in attendance.

Seymour, No. 277, Port Dalhousie: Visited at their regular, January 2th, 1899. A very nice turnout of P. M.'s and old members greeted me. They having secured the necessary dispensation, I installed their officers for the year, and, judging from the appearance and efforts of these brethren, I think Seymour Lodge is in good hands. Their rooms are comfortable, and although not strong numerically, theirs, in my opinion, is a case of quality rather than quantity.

Temple, No. 296, St. Catharines: This lodge I visited on its regular, 30th November, 1898. Was very kindly received at my hotel by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Chas. O. Beam, who accompanied me to the Temple. The craft in the City of the Saints are to be congratulated upon the handsome, in fact, luxurious suite of rooms they occupy, much the finest in the district. The initiation of a candidate was very correctly done, and I desire to congratulate Wor. Bro. Beam and his assistant officers upon the all-round efficiency evidenced. Bro. Macgregor, the painstaking Secretary, gave me much valuable information as to the affairs of Temple Lodge, also concerning the craft generally in the city. I was also placed under obligations to R. W. Bro. C. H. Connors for his thoughtful and considerate kindness. The attendance at this meeting was perhaps somewhat shrunken in consequence of St. Andrew's Society holding their annual banquet the same evening, at which I was informed a large number of Temple's P. M.'s and members ("Jock Tamsin's bairns, you know") were in attendance.

Hiram, No. 319, Hagersville: Visited on Thursday, Sept. 29th, 1898; the regular meeting. There being no degree work, the W. M., Wor. Bro. McNichol, opened

and closed in the three degrees. He and his entire staff satisfied me that they carefully prepared and impressively performed their degree work. A petition was received, and I cannot see any reason why Hiram should not be ere long one of Niagara's banner lodges. The Secretary, Bro. Forbes B. Geddes, is most painstaking and his services cannot be too highly appreciated.

King Solomon, No. 329, Jarvis: This lodge I visited Sept. 23, 1898. I was accompanied by Wor. Bros. G. R. Powell and L. L. Barber, of St. John's Lodge, No. 35. The lodge is very comfortably housed and apparently nothing but the most perfect harmony prevails among its membership. The attendance, in consequence of a perfect downpour the entire afternoon and evening, was small. There being no degree work, the W. M., R. W. Bro. Jas. Noble, and his officers, gave me an almost faultless exhibition of the opening and closing ceremonies in the different degrees. We were very handsomely entertained at Bro. Hill's American Hotel. The books, etc., of King Solomon's Lodge are in a perfect condition, Bro. D. Hill being one of the most efficient Secretaries in my district.

Myrtle, No. 337, Port Robinson: Visited Myrtle March 21st, 1899; the regular meeting. The membership is not large, consequently the attendance was only fair. However, I am inclined to think that many much larger lodges have not the same amount of enthusiasm and genuine Masonic application. Their exceedingly neat and comfortable rooms, the anxiety expressed relative to their prosperity was evidence to me that No. 337 has that which will in due time satisfy themselves and all others. Wor. Bro. Bennett, the W. M., gave me an illustration of their style of work by opening and closing in the three degrees. His support was fair. Wor. Bro. Sowersby, the Secretary, cannot be given too much credit for his zeal and activity in struggling against the greatest difficulties.

Dufferin, No. 338, Wellandport: Visited this lodge on Oct. 25th, 1898; a regular meeting. The attendance, membership considered, was fair, all evincing very great interest in the program and general prosperity of Dufferin. There being no degree work, the W. M., Wor. Bro. Wm. E. Shafter, opened and closed in the several degrees. In the person of W. Bro. D. C. Holmes, they have a most careful and painstaking Secretary, and

I feel that the welfare of this lodge is assured from the very great interest taken by so many of the older P. M.'s, among whom I desire to mention Wor. Bros. N. Shafley, D. C. Holmes, J. R. Goring and Hanson Gracey. My visit to Dufferin was rendered especially pleasant by the presence of the Grand Registrar, R. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon, and the W. M. of Amity, No. 32, Dunnville, Wor. Bro. T. C. Eccles. After the meeting the brethren spent a very social hour or two at Bro. Miller's Hotel.

Palmer, No. 372, Bridgeburg: This lodge I visited on Tuesday, May 30th; a regular meeting. The attendance was fair. The W. M., R. W. Bro. Hurrell, very ably assisted by his subordinates, opened and closed in all the degrees in a charming manner. Palmer is a prosperous and certainly a most progressive and up-to-date lodge. This is largely due to the energy and untiring efforts of the W. M., R. W. Bro. Hurrell, and its exceedingly efficient Secretary, Wor. Bro. John G. Watts.

Copestone, No. 373, Welland: Visited this, the baby lodge, of my district, June 1st, 1899, the last of my official visits. There was to have been work in the sublime degree, but the candidate did not put in an appearance. The W. M., Wor. Bro. George Sutherland, and his officers gave me a very pleasing and satisfactory exhibition of their style of work. Copestone is promising. My visit was rendered more interesting to myself in consequence of the presence of R. W. Bro. I. J. Willson, P. D. D. G. M. of this district, and the Rev. Bro. Dr. Johnston, an old and valued acquaintance. This lodge, with Merritt, No. 168, occupy new and handsome quarters. The officers and members assure me that Copestone has the brightest prospects.

IN CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I desire to once more convey to the brethren generally my warmest appreciation of the great honor done me in July last, also of the many kindnesses extended to me.

The small service (if any) that I may have rendered to the craft has been much more than repaid by the unvarying kindness and the overwhelming hospitality with which I have been received. The many charming and highly interesting evenings that I have so much enjoyed

with my brethren during the past year will for all time furnish me with the most pleasant memories.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. A. HOSHAL, D. D. G. M.,
Niagara District No. 10.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Niagara District, No. 10, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem- bership.		Degree's confd.		Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.				Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
12	Niagara	Niag. on Lake.	44	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '98.	Good	Good	Yes	Yes
15	Union	Grimsby	55	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '98	Good	Good	Yes	\$ 300 00
32	Amity	St. Catharines.	79	1	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Jan., '99	Fair	Good	Yes	100 00
35	St. John's	Dunnville	67	1	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec., '98	Good	Fair	Yes	400 00
103	Maple Leaf	Cayuga	80	6	5	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '99	Good	Excellent	Yes	300 00
105	St. Mark's	St. Catharines.	108	1	5	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '98	Good	Good	Yes	500 00
115	Ivy	Niag. Falls Sth	68	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	1500 00
168	Merritt	Beausville	78	7	7	7	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Mar., '99	Good	Good	Yes	300 00
169	Maenab	Welland	64	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	April, '99	Good	Good	Yes	400 00
185	Emiskill'n	Port Colborne.	54	2	4	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec., '98	Good	Good	No	500 00
221	Mountain	Thorold	37	10	7	6	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	500 00
254	Clifton	Niagara Falls.	92	3	6	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Fully
277	Seymour	Port Dalhousie	98	1	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Feb. 25, '99	Not good	Poor.	Yes	400 00
296	Temple	St. Catharines.	59	1	2	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	300 00
319	Hiram	Hagersville	57	4	1	4	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec., '98	Good	Good	Yes	250 00
329	K. Solomon	Hagersville	42	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec., '98	Vry good	Vry good	Yes	320 00
337	Myrtle	Port Robinson	26	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec., '98	Fair	Good	No	.....
338	Dufferin	Wellandport	96	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	June, '98	Vry good	Good	No	300 00
372	Palmer	Bridgeburg	52	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec., '98	Good	Good	Yes	400 00
373	Copestone	Welland	32	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec., '98	Good	Good	Yes	None.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT, NO. 11.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting my report on the condition of Masonry in this district, I do so with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret; pleasure because all my official duties and visits throughout the district have been a series of agreeable tasks, and regret because this report must be the closing act of my duties in my official capacity, and consequently the end in some measure at least of the beginning of Masonic friendships which time alone could make life-long.

I desire to place on record my heartfelt thanks to the brethren of the district for their expression of confidence in electing me to the important position of the representative of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master in this district, and also for their personal and collective attention to the faithful performance of their Masonic duties.

My first official act was the appointment of Wor. Bro. N. R. Miller, a Past Master of Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, G. R. C., as District Secretary, to whom I feel indebted both for the prompt and efficient attention which he has given to the duties of his office, and for the zeal and attention to myself personally when accompanying me on numerous official visits.

I have endeavored to discharge all the duties which have devolved upon me with but a single eye to the advancement of the craft, and have officially visited all the lodges once at least, and oftener when required. I have paid 103 visits throughout this and other districts during the year.

I am more than pleased that I am in a position to report that there appears to be an ever increasing desire on the part of the officers and members of the different lodges to perfect themselves in Masonic knowledge, as well as to secure uniformity in the general work as laid

down by Grand Lodge. I have tried to emphasize strongly upon the brethren that while accuracy in the ritual is essential, it is altogether lost if the work is not done impressively, and with this end in view I have endeavored to confer a degree myself in as many lodges as possible, and I believe that this has had a beneficial effect throughout the district. I have visited and strongly urged (by circular letter) that the Worshipful Masters of the lodges should not fail to have the lectures and charges in the different degrees delivered to the candidates on the same night they receive the particular degree, as I believe the effect is in no small measure lost if they are not so delivered. I do not like to see the W. M. of a lodge placing himself in the position of an apologist to the candidate, which is so often done on account of the lateness of the evening, etc., etc. I am pleased to be able to report that my instructions in this respect have been carried out.

Taken as a whole, I am satisfied that the work is fully up to the standard required by Grand Lodge. It is also a source of deep gratification to myself to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout the district. In one instance only did it grieve me to see two brethren of a lodge at variance, but after a few words from myself I had the satisfaction of seeing them shake hands on the floor of the lodge. I do not know that during the whole course of my visits anything pleased me more than this; to my mind it was purely Masonic.

INSTALLATIONS

I have installed the officers of several of the lodges and assisted at the installation of several lodges outside the district.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted dispensations to lodges in pursuance of the powers in me vested, and have remitted all fees payable thereon to the Grand Secretary.

TIME OF ELECTIONS.

In my official capacity experience has taught me the almost absolute necessity of having the lodges elected as nearly as possible as that of the D. D. G. M. If this could be arranged it would in my humble opinion be most beneficial to the lodges themselves, and a most

important advantage to the Deputy District Grand Master, who would then have a full year to make his official visits instead of about five months, as it is at present. I entirely agree with all that my predecessors have said on this subject, and can only add that I trust that Grand Lodge will take the matter up and bring about the desired change at no distant date.

EXPENSES OF THE D. D. G. M.

All the lodges in the district but two have done what seems to be their simple duty in tendering me my expenses.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

On the 18th day of April I held a Lodge of Instruction at the Temple building under the auspices of Wilson Lodge, No. 86, at which there was a magnificent attendance of W. M.'s, officers and members of nearly all the lodges throughout the district, and the greatest interest in this one of the most important events in any Masonic District prevailed.

The W. M. and officers of Wilson Lodge initiated a candidate in a manner seldom equalled in any lodge. There was not a single fault throughout the entire ceremony. The lecture by the J. W. and the charge by W. Bro. E. M. Carleton, I. P. M., were delivered impressively and could not fail to have the desired effect upon the candidate.

A brother was passed after an examination in which he answered the usual questions clearly, audibly and correctly by the W. M. and officers of Alpha Lodge, No. 384. This work was perfectly rendered, and I was delighted with it. The lecture given by the S. W. and the charge by W. Bro. Col. Gray, were both deserving of praise.

The W. M. and officers of Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, raised a brother to the third degree in an almost faultless manner, and too much credit cannot be bestowed upon the officers of this lodge, as their work gave me satisfactory evidence of careful and painstaking preparation. As the evening was late after the degrees had been conferred, I felt obliged to disallow any discussion of the work. Indeed, I saw no need for any, as the work in all three degrees was fully up to what I considered Grand Lodge requires.

I had previously intimated to the W. M. of Wilson Lodge that it was not at all incumbent in his lodge to assume the trouble and expense of providing refreshments for so large a gathering, but here again Wilson Lodge was equal to the occasion, the W. M. Wor. Bro., J. J. Gee, intimating to me that as his lodge had the honor of having the Lodge of Instruction held under its auspices, he had seen to it that the honor was duly appreciated. A magnificent banquet had been prepared, and every visitor was cordially invited to remain. Ample justice was done by all at the fourth degree, after songs, speeches and recitations were the order of the evening, or I should say, morning, and a most pleasant and profitable time was brought to a close by all singing Auld Lang Syne.

I had arranged with R. W. Bro. James Glanville, D.D. G. M. of the Toronto District No. 11, to hold a joint Lodge of Instruction for the benefit of the two districts, on the evening of the 23rd day of May, under the auspices of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, G. R. C., and all the arrangements made were carried out to perfection. There was a very large turnout of the brethren from the lodges in the vicinity of Aurora, for whose especial benefit the lodge was held and who by their presence testified their appreciation of our efforts. Several past and present Grand Lodge officers were also in evidence, among whom I noticed R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, D. D. G. M. of the Georgian District; Rt. Wor. Bro. T. H. Brunton, Past D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Ben Allen, P. G. S. W.; V. W. Bro. John Jones, also W. Bro. Inwood, P. M. of Orient Lodge, and Wor. Bro. N. R. Miller, District Secretary.

The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Norman, W. M. of Robertson Lodge, No. 292, and his officers perfectly. R. W. Bro. Morgan was asked to criticize the work, and he stated that it was beyond criticism, and he was right. I have never yet seen the work of the first degree so faultlessly rendered by any set of officers. There was not a single break, and every officer was to my mind perfect in his part. The second degree was exemplified by the W. M. and officers of Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket, and the third degree by Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora. I shall not dwell upon the work of these two lodges, as I have no doubt that R. W. Bro. Glanville will report fully upon them, as they are in his district.

All I can state is that the work throughout was highly satisfactory and a credit to all the lodges concerned. The hospitality of the brethren of Rising Sun Lodge was put to a very severe test owing to the large number of the brethren present, but it stood the strain, and all were accommodated at the refreshment table. The entertainment at this degree was of a very high order, and it was daylight when we got up from the festive board.

SECRETARIES.

Just a word or two about this particular officer of a lodge. He is to my mind the next most important officer to the W. M., for a lodge without a good Secretary is like a ship without an anchor. I have always, when paying my official visits, endeavored to seek out the Secretary and have a little chat with him about the important duties of his office. In the matter of immediate reply to all correspondence I have been ever dwelling.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22, Toronto: I visited this the oldest lodge in the district twice. First on the 13th October, 1898, when I received a royal fraternal welcome at the hands of the brethren, being introduced to the lodge by a deputation consisting of R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, P. D. D. G. M.; V. W. Bro. John Hall and W. Bro. N. T. Lyon, all stalwart Masons. Three candidates were initiated, the ceremony being performed by myself in one instance. I missed the genial face of Bro. Fraser, the J. W., who had died but recently. His place was filled for the evening by W. Bro. Hollingsworth, who delivered the lecture well. I was pleased to hear the charge so ably delivered by W. Bro. Dan McDonald. My second visit was made on the 13th day of April last, when there was a large turn out of the officers and members, and official visits to the lodge were made by W. M.'s, officers and members of St. John's, No. 75; Rehoboam, No. 65, and Asrlar, No. 247. A candidate was initiated by the W. M. and his officers in a highly commendable manner, and there was no room for adverse criticism. This lodge is not as strong financially as I would wish it. The principal reason for this is that there has been in the past a good deal of internal friction among the members, and black balls have not been spared. This has been arranged amicably, I am pleased

to state, and I trust all will be well for the future. A pleasant feature of the evening was the presentation to R. W. Bro. Aubry White, P. D. D. G. M., of a large group photo of the rulers of the craft in Toronto for the year 1897. The presentation was made by W. Bro. A. A. Davis, a P. M. of the lodge, in appropriate words. The R. W. Bro. accepted the gift, and replying in his usual style brimful of wit, and very generously handed over the gift to the representative of the hall trust to be hung up in some suitable place. We spent a pleasant hour at the refreshment table.

Vaughan Lodge, No. 54, Maple: I visited this lodge on the 8th June and received a hearty and fraternal welcome from the brethren. This is a prosperous lodge so far as good work and harmony go, but this will not do of itself, and I would like to see more good material coming in, as very few initiations have taken place for some years past. This I was assured has already been made possible in the near future. I delivered an address to the brethren which seemed to meet with their approval. A candidate was raised to the third degree by W. Bro. Shunk and his officers faultlessly, and what is more, impressively, and at the close I held a board of trial on the floor of the lodge, something few of those present had ever witnessed, and I have the satisfaction of knowing that my efforts in this direction were appreciated. W. Bro. Dr. Sisley is one of the mainsprings of this lodge and has gathered up and entered in a book form all the records of the lodge since its formation under the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 5854. This was a task of no mean proportion. W. Bro. Sisley is Secretary of the lodge and attends to his duties promptly, and his books are models of neatness. I bespeak for this lodge the measure of success it deserves. A banquet was held at the close of the lodge and a pleasant time spent.

Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 3rd November, 1898. This was Past Master's night and I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Glanville, D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Miller, District Secretary. R. W. Bro. Gibbs occupied the chair and assisted by Past Masters such as V. W. Bro. Gallow, W. Bro. Graham and others, initiated a candidate in a manner unsurpassed by anything I have hitherto seen in the work of Past Masters of any lodge. I was particularly

struck with the large attendance of the brethren of the lodge itself. This means that it is a prosperous lodge. I visited this lodge again on the 2nd day of March, when W. Bro. Hoskins, assisted by his officers, initiated a candidate in a manner which reflected great credit on them. W. Bro. Hoskins is an enthusiastic and painstaking W. M., and Rehoboam Lodge must flourish under his rule. The Secretary keeps his books well and correctly. We spent an enjoyable time at the refreshment table.

Wilson Lodge, No. 86, Toronto: I visited this splendid lodge on the 18th day of October, being the occasion of the celebration of its 41st anniversary, and the chairs were filled by P. M.'s. The evening was marked by the presence of that veteran Mason, M. Wor. Bro. Kivas Tully, the first W. M. of the lodge. The M. W. the Grand Master was also present and delivered a most instructive address to the brethren. I noticed four ministers of the Gospel present who added dignity and grace to the meeting. The work of the first degree was exemplified with V. W. Bro. Coady, our distinguished City Treasurer, in the chair, in a highly commendable manner. Wilson is a sterling lodge and does good work. I visited this lodge again on the 18th day of April when a Lodge of Instruction was held, which I have described fully above.

True Blue Lodge, No. 98, Bolton: I visited this lodge on the 21st day of April and was hospitably received by the brethren, who are all whole-souled Masons. This is one of the best and most prosperous rural lodges I have had the pleasure of visiting. I had anticipated a board of trial before allowed to enter the lodge, but the presence unexpectedly of Bro. Burton, a member of the lodge, and a frequent visitor to my mother lodge, Ashlar, No. 247, settled the matter. The brethren own their lodge free from debt, and it is both artistic and comfortable. A brother was raised to the sublime degree by the W. M. and his officers intellectually and impressively. The Secretary, W. Bro. Roberts, is a thoroughly efficient and painstaking officer, and keeps his books well. No. 98 is all right.

Union Lodge, No. 118, Schomberg: I visited this lodge on the 19th day of June and by the kindness of W. Bro. Radcliffe, of Rising Sun Lodge, we had pre-arranged that he should drive me over. It is some four-

teen miles drive from Aurora, but when one is received by the brethren of a lodge like those who make up this one he feels amply repaid. The election of officers took place and all was harmony, the officers being promoted in nearly every case. I am sorry that this lodge does not progress numerically, as the foundation is all right, but the material for the superstructure does not seem to be in sight.

York Lodge, No. 156, Eglinton: I visited this lodge several times because in reading over the report of my predecessor I noticed that he stated that the lodge was in a very weak condition. This must be a mistake on his part, as I am convinced that from what I saw of the members they are good Masons, do their work well and pay their debts. I made my first visit on the 21st October last, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Glanville, D. D. G. M., of the Toronto East District, No. 11a. The night was a very stormy one, but the brethren had already been advised of the chief attraction of the evening, a presentation of a handsome diamond ring to V. W. Bro. C. C. Norris, one of the hardest workers in the lodge. The presentation was made and very feelingly replied to by the recipient. It was intended that a candidate should be initiated, but he failed to put in an appearance, which I regretted very much, as I was anxious to see the work exemplified in my official capacity, well knowing that it would be up to the mark. I was glad, however, to hear three applications read out. This lodge is composed of thorough, whole-souled Masons and backed up by veterans in Masonry like R. W. John Fisher, P. D. D. G. M.; V. W. Bro. Norris and W. Bro. R. W. Hull, cannot fail to make itself felt as a power for good in the craft. I visited this lodge subsequently and have seen all three degrees exemplified to my entire satisfaction. The books are well kept by an efficient secretary, Bro. Armstrong.

Ionic Lodge, No. 229, Brampton: I visited this lodge on the 21st day of March and was met at the station by V. W. Bro. Morton, the Secretary of the lodge, who conducted me to the hotel, and after supper I was called on by a deputation and conducted to the lodge room, which is a remarkably cosy and comfortable, one well-appointed in every particular. Here I was met with a loyal and fraternal greeting at the hands of W. Bro. McFadden, whom I have had the pleasure of knowing

for some 26 years. The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and a brother who had lately been raised to the sublime degree was examined as to his proficiency in that degree as laid down in the work. I was pleased with this, as it was the first occasion upon which I had seen this done. I felt that it was an example for other lodges to follow. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree and a candidate was initiated by the W. M. and his officers in a manner which rendered adverse criticism on my part impossible. The J. W. delivered the lecture in a highly creditable manner, and that old Masonic standby, V. W. Bro. Morton, delivered the charge in a manner which could not fail to impress the candidate. Altogether I was very much pleased with this visit, particularly with the J. D., who did his work perfectly in every detail. I bespeak for Ionic that measure of prosperity it so richly deserves. The lodge is well attended at all its meetings by its Past Masters, to whom in no small measure is due the success of the lodge. We spent a pleasant hour at the refreshment board.

Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 27th September last and was tendered a splendid reception on this my first official visit as D. D. G. M. of the district. Ashlar being my mother lodge, I felt it would be a small compliment to the lodge and a tribute of my esteem for the brethren if I paid my first official visit to them. I found that the lodge had anticipated my visit and had arranged to give me a warm welcome, having sent out special invitations to the W. M.'s and Wardens of all the city lodges and to past and present Grand Lodge officers. Upon being announced I was introduced in the lodge by those stalwart Masons, R. W. Bro. Ben Allen and R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, and received at the hands of the W. M., W. Bro. O'Hara, a truly Masonic welcome and congratulations of the brethren upon being elected D. D. G. M. of this district. A candidate was initiated by the W. M. and his officers, the work being performed in Ashlar's proverbial good style, although the Inner Guard was unavoidably absent, the J. S. had been removed to St. John's, New Brunswick, and the J. W. had not returned from his visit to Europe. A sumptuous banquet was served in the refreshment room and an excellent programme of songs and speeches brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

I appreciate the honor which my brethren did me on this occasion. This is without doubt one of the very best lodges in the district socially, financially and as a working lodge. There appears to be a species of electric current permeating the members of this lodge which the visitor feels but cannot describe, and it is from this fact, together with the unanimity and concord which prevail that anything the lodge undertakes makes success a foregone conclusion. I visited this lodge again on the 27th day of December, but could only remain to see a portion of the installation ceremony, as I had promised to instal the officers of Alpha Lodge. I paid another visit on the 28th of February on the occasion of the lodge's celebration of its twenty-eighth birthday. I occupied the chair and had the distinguished honor of initiating a son of the founder of Ashlar Lodge (I refer to the late R. W. Bro. T. F. Blackwood). It was also Past Masters' night, and all the chairs were filled by P. M.'s. The work was so divided up that from the veteran Wor. Bro. J. S. Donaldson, the oldest living P. M. down to the youngest P. M., took part. It was a gala night for Ashlar Lodge, and will long be remembered by the members and visitors. The M. W. the Grand Master graced the proceedings with his presence and received a loyal and fraternal welcome. I visited this lodge again on the 28th March, as I had not had an opportunity of seeing any work done by W. Bro. Murphy and his officers. There were five city lodges paying official visits, viz., Rehoboam, Occident, Wilson, Harmony and St. Andrew's. Three candidates were passed to the second degree by the W. M., and the work was thorough and correct. The work of the S. D., Bro. Thomas Reid, was excellent and performed with military precision, and the lecture delivered by the S. W., Bro. A. F. Webster, was all that could be desired. The books of the Secretary, Bro. A. B. Aylesworth, are models of neatness, and are correctly kept.

Patterson Lodge, No. 265, Thornhill: I visited this lodge on the 20th April last and was well received by the brethren. I do not know that I could do better to show the condition of this lodge than by copying a report I heard read at this meeting by the chairman of a committee which had been previously struck for the purpose of enquiring into the condition of this lodge. It read as follows: "We, your committee appointed to

report on the standing of Patterson Lodge, financially and otherwise, beg leave to report as follows: We find in looking over the accounts for some years past that the lodge was in good standing as regards members and finances up to 1890, there being a good balance in the hands of the Treasurer at that time, and the members then numbered 42. Since that time up to about one and a half years ago the number seemed to be gradually depreciating, from what cause we are hardly able to say, without it was some disagreement between some members who lived in Toronto and local brethren. We understand that these brethren from Toronto were too free with the finances of the lodge to suit the brethren here and a number withdrew, and the lodge became financially embarrassed and money had to be borrowed to meet accounts then due. Then, to make matters worse, they wished to have our lodge moved to Toronto, and a meeting was called purposely to consider that matter. The D. D. G. M. at that time was apparently in favor of its removal. The local brethren were very much annoyed at this and a number of them left the lodge, but the more conservative desired to retain Patterson Lodge, and turned out to this meeting in fairly good numbers, and being in the majority, it was decided to leave the lodge as it was. After this meeting Toronto brethren did not attend, and the local brethren began to take more interest. From this time forward there has been a gradual improvement. The old debts have all been paid off and the money borrowed returned with interest. Last year we initiated five new members, and there is one to ballot for to-night and one or two others who have asked for blank propositions which may be handed in at any time. The number of brethren on the list is 27 and two twelve months in arrears. Success for the future is very encouraging." With W. Bro. Langstaff at the helm to guide this lodge through what it has passed I see no reason why it should not succeed. The brethren can do good work and are most enthusiastic Masons.

Robertson Lodge, No. 292, King: I visited this lodge on the 22nd May and was met at the station by the W. M. Wor. Bro. Norman and driven to the hotel, which is some distance, where I had the pleasure of meeting W. Bro. Crossley. Upon my entrance into the lodge I was warmly welcomed by the W. M. and brethren. I deliv-

ered a short address touching upon the general work of a lodge and behaviour therein, which appeared to be much appreciated by those present. A candidate was initiated, and the work was perfection itself. I had no misgivings about the next night when I saw this work, as I had picked out Robertson Lodge to work the first degree at the joint Lodge of Instruction which was to be held at Aurora on the 23rd of May. Wor. Bro. Norman is a thorough and impressive Ritualist, and the J. W. delivered the lecture well. Wor. Bro. Crossley delivered the charge to the candidate, and I feel sure it will have a lasting impression upon the candidate. A brother was raised to the third degree by the W. M., assisted by Wor. Bro. Crossley, and the W. M. delivered the charge clearly and forcibly. This lodge is in a highly prosperous condition and new material is not lacking. The Secretary, Bro. Patterson, keeps the books well and correctly.

Humber Lodge, No. 305, Weston: I visited this lodge twice, first on the 21st day of December, when I installed their officers, and secondly on the 19th of April, when I saw the W. M. and officers do good work. The work of the first degree was exemplified to my entire satisfaction by every officer. Wor. Bro. Elliott is the right man in the right place, and infuses a large amount of genuine Masonic enthusiasm into his officers and members. This lodge ought to prosper. The Secretary keeps his books well.

Blackwood Lodge, No. 311, Woodbridge: I visited this lodge on the 19th day of May and was indeed pleased to enter the portals of a lodge called after the founder of my mother lodge, Ashlar. The attendance was small, only about thirteen being present, but what was lacking in numbers was certainly made up in enthusiasm and good work. The third degree was exemplified by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Frank Smith, and his officers, and the charge was perfectly rendered by the W. M. The opening and closing in the three degrees was perfect. The lodge room and its approaches are not at all desirable, but I am pleased to say that at this meeting the lodge had under discussion the advisability of purchasing a lot and erecting a suitable hall, and subscriptions for this purpose were volunteered. If this scheme is carried out I am satisfied it will give a fresh impetus to this lodge, and new members will come in.

No candidates have been received for the past two years, but I am told prospects are brighter for the future. Wor Bro. Dr. McLean has Masonry in general and this lodge in particular in his heart, and renders valuable assistance to the lodge. The books are kept well.

Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto: I visited this lodge several times. First on the 23rd of September, upon the invitation of the W. M., officers and members, when a magnificent reception was tendered to the M. Wor. the Grand Master, and a beautiful address in album form was presented to him containing words of congratulation to himself and expressing the high honor which had been conferred upon Zetland Lodge (his mother lodge) by having him unanimously chosen by the Grand Lodge to be the chief head and ruler of the craft for the Province of Ontario. The M. Wor. the Grand Master replied in very feeling terms and thanked the Lodge for their kind words and royal reception. One candidate was initiated and the work was done almost without a fault. The meeting was graced by the presence of two Past Grand Masters, M. Wor. Bros. Hugh Hurray, of Hamilton, and Wm. Gibson, of Beamsville. After the lodge was closed a magnificent banquet was served in the upper room, when speeches and songs went merrily until the "wee sma' hours," and brought to a close by the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

I visited Zetland Lodge again on the 24th February, and was well received by about 150 brethren and visitors of the lodge. There were three official visits made to the lodge, viz.: W. Bro. H. T. Smith, W. M. of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16; W. Bro. D. Hoskins, W. M. of Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65; and W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, W. M. of Georgina Lodge, No. 343, accompanied by their respective officers and members. The M. W. the Grand Master was also present, not in his capacity of G. M., but as Treasurer of the lodge. I delivered a short address to the brethren urging several points which I thought would be of benefit to the craft in general, which was well received. The W. M. raised a candidate to the sublime degree. The other officers of the lodge acquitted themselves creditably, especially the S. D., Bro. Cockburn, who was a model officer. We spent a very pleasant hour at the fourth degree. I also visited this lodge on the occasion of their Past Grand Master's night, when all the living Present and Past Grand Mas-

ters, with the exception of M. Wor. Bro. Robertson, of Collingwood, who was absent through illness, were present. This meeting was one to be remembered in the minds of all those who attended. The work of the first degree was exemplified perfectly, and the charge and lecture were delivered by those veterans in the craft in a manner which called forth the admiration of all present. A banquet was held, which every brother must have enjoyed.

Occident Lodge, No. 346, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 19th October, in company with R. Wor. Bro. James Glanville, D. D. G. M. of the Toronto District East, No. 11a, and we were received by the Wor. Master, officers and members of the lodge right loyally. Having visited this lodge several times during terms in which I held office in Ashlar Lodge, I was struck with the material and numerical increase in strength of the lodge. Differences which had existed in the past seem to have been entirely obliterated, and all things appear to be working in harmony and concord. The first degree was exemplified in a manner almost above criticism, every officer performing his particular part of the ceremony with credit and ability. I cannot speak too highly of the W. M. Wor. Bro. E. J. B. Duncan, who presides over the affairs of this lodge with a dignity and at the same time an easy grace and pleasant manner which in itself must go a long way to secure that harmony which is essential to the success of any lodge. I was more than pleased to hear and see the able and impressive manner in which the J. W. delivered the lecture and Wor. Bro. F. W. Barber rendered the charge to the newly initiated brother. Three new applications were received. The work in the fourth degree could not have been surpassed for genuine hospitality. I bespeak for this lodge that measure of prosperity which the fidelity and zeal of its officers and members deserves. I also saw W. Bro. Lake and his officers perform their work to perfection.

River Park Lodge, No. 356, Streetsville: I visited this lodge on the 19th of June and was well received by the brethren. A brother was passed to the second degree and another raised to the third degree by the W. M. and officers in a highly creditable manner. This lodge is holding its own in the district, and should even be more prosperous with its surrounding advantages. W.

Bro. Couse is energetic and has lent his inspiration to his officers. W. Bro. Taylor is a model Secretary and keeps his books well. We spent a pleasant time at the fourth degree.

Mimico Lodge, No. 369, Lambton Mills: I visited this lodge on 18th May and was not disappointed at the loyalty of my reception, R. W. Bro. Jas. Glanville accompanying me on this occasion. I found the brethren in possession of a well-appointed building, which is owned and paid for by the lodge. A candidate was initiated by the W. M. and officers in a manner which justified me in stating that outside the city of Toronto I had never seen the work performed in a better manner. There were seven P. M.'s present who take a deep interest in the work of the lodge. The W. M., Bro. F. F. Reeves, is a correct and impressive ritualist, and the charge, as delivered by P. M. Wor. Bro. Gray, was simply perfection. I was sorry that the J. W., Bro. Dr. Bull, was called away to attend a patient, and I had not the pleasure of hearing him deliver his lecture, as I had been informed that no brother in the district could excel him in this particular. The Secretary is painstaking and correct, and the books are well kept. Plenty of good material is available in the neighborhood to make this good lodge better and stronger. A pleasant hour was spent at the fourth degree.

Harmony Lodge, No. 438, Toronto, is the youngest baby in the cradle of Masonry in this district. Ever since its infancy it has been well and carefully looked after by craftsmen whose names rank high in the honor roll of Grand Lodge. Therefore, it was not surprising that on the occasion of my official visit to Harmony Lodge at its regular communication on Monday, March 27th, I found it healthy and flourishing. The large attendance of members were especially gratifying to me. Two candidates were initiated in the mysteries of Masonry, and the first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. J. C. Gardner and his officers in a correct and impressive manner, the work throughout the ceremony betokening earnest and conscientious adherence to, and compliance with, the demands of the ritual. The books of the lodge are neatly and correctly kept by the Secretary. The future seems particularly bright for the welfare and prosperity of Harmony Lodge.

I visited Stanley Lodge, No. 426, and witnessed the

W. M. and officers exemplify the first degree in a highly efficient and creditable manner. Indeed, I have seldom seen the work so well executed in every detail. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Perfect, is not only so in name, but also in deed as far as Masonic work is concerned, he being a very impressive ritualistic worker and possesses a clear voice which stands him in good stead. The S. W., Bro. Anderson, fills the chair in the west admirably and will make a good W. M. The lecture was delivered by the J. W. to my entire satisfaction, and the floor work of the J. D. deserves special commendation. I delivered a short address to the brethren on several points, for which the W. M. in kindly words thanked me. I answered many questions which were put to me by the brethren, who seemed anxious for "more light." We spent a pleasant hour at the refreshment table. The books of the Secretary, Bro. Royce, are well and neatly kept, and the dues are well paid.

IN CONCLUSION

I desire to thank each and every one of the brethren throughout the district for turning out in such goodly numbers to receive me on my official visits, thereby paying the respect due to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master through me as his representative in this district. I trust that my successor in office will be blessed with a most successful year, and that in his visits throughout the district he will find traces of good work which I have endeavored ever so humbly to perform.

Fraternally submitted.

CURRAN MORRISON, D. D. G. M..

Toronto West District, No. 11.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Toronto West District, No. 11, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Degree's conf'd			Total.	Meet- ings held.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
					E. A.	F. C.	M. M.											
22	King St's	Toronto	192	17	13	12	15	51	516	42 00	20	\$169 65	June, '99	Good	Bright	Yes	Yes	\$1600 00
54	Vaughan	Maple	34	1	6	1	1	1	8	5 00	10	38 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	Yes	200 00
65	Rehoboth	Toronto	232	6	11	11	7	1	1	65 00	27	607 42	Dec. 27, '98	Sound.	Good	Yes	Yes	90 00
86	Wilson	Toronto	172	23	3	19	21	4	11	25 00	26	281 65	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Encour'g	Yes	Yes	300 00
98	True Blue.	Boston	43	5	3	3	2	1	9	5 00	20	75 00	June, 24, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Yes	400 00
118	Union	Schomberg	20	...	...	...	...	...	9	4	4	25 00	June, 24, '98	Good	Medium	Yes	Yes	1425 00
156	York	Eglinton	99	5	11	4	3	1	2	50 00	18	230 00	Jan. 1, '99	Fair	Good	Yes	Yes	200 00
229	Ionie	Brampton	71	1	1	1	2	...	8	11 50	2	24 00	June, 28, '99	Fair	Good	Yes	Yes	400 00
247	Ashlar	Toronto	166	14	10	11	9	13	3	122 85	20	364 25	Dec. 27, '98	6454 49	Excellent	Yes	Yes	1425 00
265	Patterson.	Thornhill	31	5	4	4	1	9	9	...	...	...	June, 24, '99	First class	Very good	Yes	Yes	200 00
292	Robertson	King	42	4	3	5	8	1	2	...	...	...	Jan. 2, '99	All right	Good	Yes	Yes	250 00
305	Humber	Weston.	33	1	...	...	...	...	3	8 00	8	22 20	Jan. '99	Good	Fair	Yes	None	...
311	Blackwood	Woodbridge	294	24	23	22	7	...	9	150 00	32	349 00	Dec. 27, '98	A 1	Satisfy	Yes	Cover'd	...
326	Zetland	Toronto	152	2	4	11	11	2	3	50 00	21	603 80	June, 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	Yes	1000 00
346	Oceident	Toronto	32	4	1	3	2	1	12	...	9	29 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	Yes	100 00
356	River Park	Streetsville.	59	9	...	...	...	...	13	20 00	14	171 00	Feb. '99	\$131 30	Good	Good	Yes	1000 00
369	Mimico	Lambton Mills	190	23	16	17	15	9	1	50 00	47	352 30	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Bright	Yes	Yes	1000 00
384	Alpha	Toronto	132	14	11	11	10	10	1	28 00	4	178 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Yes	1000 00
426	Stanley	Toronto Junct.	123	16	7	13	13	3	11	36	20	212 00	Dec. 24, '98	Very good	Excellent	Yes	Ful. In.	...
438	Harmony	Toronto	123	16	7	13	13	3	11	34	20	212 00	Dec. 24, '98	Very good	Excellent	Yes	Ful. In.	...

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT, NO. 11A.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report upon the condition of Masonry in the Toronto East District No. 11A during the past year.

At the meeting of the Toronto District held in the city of Brantford on Thursday, July 22nd, 1897, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz.: "That a committee be appointed by this district to inquire into and consider the advisability of having a division of this district, and if advisable to take such steps as will lead to such a division being effected."

The committee appointed under the resolution, after careful consideration, and having obtained the consensus of opinion of the forty lodges in the district, unanimously decided that in the best interests of the craft a division of this district should be effected, and at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the city of Toronto on the 20th day of July, 1898, it was resolved that the Toronto District, No. 11, be divided.

The lodges composing the Toronto East District, No. 11A, are those of the eastern portion of former Toronto District, No. 11, outside of the city of Toronto. Yonge street being the dividing line between the two districts, the lodges in the city of Toronto were apportioned to the Toronto East and Toronto West districts, according to the seniority of their respective warrants.

This district as at present constituted is compact and does not entail too great a task upon the D. D. G. M. in visiting the several lodges, composed as it is of 20 lodges, it affords opportunity of visiting them without great inconvenience, and I have no doubt but that my successors will consider that the effected division was in the best interest of the fraternity.

Having been honored by my brethren at the last An-

nual Communication of Grand Lodge by my election as the first D. D. G. M. of the new district. I desire to express my sincere thanks to the brethren throughout the district for the many graceful courtesies extended to me, and the uniform and kindly services rendered me whilst paying my official visits.

I was enabled to visit every lodge in the district at least once, the majority of them twice, and in many instances I took advantage of the privilege accorded me and visited some of the lodges several times, and on each occasion I was received with the utmost cordiality. Fortunately every engagement made with any of the lodges I was privileged to fulfil, and all of the lodges were prepared to receive a visit from me at any time, and as I visited many of the lodges without previous notification, feeling assured that all of them were properly officered, I take great pleasure in stating that the standard of excellence of work in this district is very high.

The brethren of this district adhere to that accuracy and uniformity of work that is most essential, and in my visits I endeavored to instruct as far as my ability would permit where instruction was deemed necessary. I directed attention to inaccuracies, or where changes would be found acceptable, and complimented where it was justly deserved.

With the exception of two of the lodges in the city of Toronto, peace and harmony prevails in this district, and I am sure that were a feeling of a more brotherly nature exhibited in those lodges that their difficulties would soon be overcome.

The exchange of visits between lodges, both in this district and from and to lodges in the adjoining districts, is exceptionally gratifying and cannot but be productive of much good being accomplished. It is pleasing to see the Past Masters accompanying their Masters on these visits in such numbers.

Of the twenty lodges in this district fifteen are in excellent condition. Two show decided improvement, two require the most careful attention on the part of those who are entrusted with the administration of their affairs, and one requires radical changes in all its methods of conducting business and careful nursing on the part of its members and my successor to enable it to continue its existence.

The outlook is exceptionally promising. All the

lodges with the exception of three have increased their membership; one remains stationary; two show loss in membership, caused by S. N. P. D.; seventeen of the lodges show a gain of one hundred and thirty-six; two lodges have a decrease of twenty-two, so that the net gain is one hundred and fourteen, which would be extremely gratifying were the decreases not largely caused by S. N. P. D.

In this district too large a proportion of those initiated unfortunately demit from the lodges for reasons at some times unexplainable, and the S. N. P. D. list is altogether too large. For the purpose of comparison, I find that during the last ten years and this year the record of this district is as follows, viz.:

	1889-98	1899
Initiations.	1225	182
Joinings.	394	39
Restorations.	127	18
Withdrawals.	479	52
Deaths.	198	25
Suspensions on non-payment dues.	568	46
Suspensions, other causes.	10	2
Gain in membership.	491	114
Membership in 1898 and 1899.	1963	1899.2077

I am sure that all will agree that our best efforts should be devoted to stopping the enormous drain upon our membership caused by withdrawals and the suspensions for non-payment of dues. I have endeavored to the utmost of my ability to impress this upon the members of the several lodges of this district, and I trust that my efforts will bring forth good result. The number of restorations, eighteen, is not as large as I would desire, considering the effort that has been put forth in all the lodges, and I trust that material improvement may be exhibited in this direction during the coming year. I am pleased at the number of joinings, thirty-nine, and trust that the good work in this direction will be continued.

It is with gratification that I am enabled to report that the lodges in this district have expended the large sum of \$886.27 in benevolence during the past year, \$687.77 of this being dispensed by six of the lodges. I trust that their good example may be emulated.

One of my first duties after my election was to select

from among the brethren of the district a Secretary and a Chaplain. As my District Secretary I was fortunate in selecting W. Bro. A. L. Malone, P. M. Georgina Lodge, No. 343, who has performed all the duties which devolved upon him with fidelity and dispatch, and it would ill become me were I not grateful to him for the many services accorded me and his kind and considerate co-operation and support. As District Chaplain, it was the pleasure of the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison and myself to appoint Bro. the Rev. Morgan Wood, of Doric Lodge, No. 316, Toronto.

Immediately upon entering the duties of my office I issued the following circular to each lodge in the district, viz.:

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, A. F. & A. M.

Toronto East District, No. 11A.

Office of the District Deputy Grand Master,
Toronto, Sept. 16th, 1898.

Dear Sir and Worshipful Brother:

It is but fitting that I should express my appreciation of the honor that has been conferred upon me by the Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of the lodges in this district by electing me to the responsible position of District Deputy Grand Master, and I trust that I shall be enabled to discharge the duties that devolve upon me with fidelity and zeal.

I have appointed W. Bro. A. L. Malone, of Georgina Lodge, No. 343, as District Secretary, and communications for me, addressed to his care, will secure prompt attention.

As the majority of the lodges in this district elect their officers in November, it is my intention to hold the first of a series of Lodges of Instruction during that month, in order that the brethren who have been honored by their fellows may have the opportunity of securing much useful information, enabling them to maintain the standard of efficiency that is required in the exemplification of the several degrees.

It is my intention to visit the several lodges of this district as often as I shall deem necessary, and I shall be pleased to have the Worshipful Master of each lodge exemplify one or more of the degrees on the occasion of my visit; if time and circumstance will permit, I desire to see all of the degrees presented during the series of visits I shall pay each lodge.

I also desire to direct special attention to the fact that it is requisite that all those elected to the office of Master must be expert craftsmen, well skilled in the work, and presented to a Board of Installed Masters for examination prior to installation. The next election for the office of Master will be held in November and December, and in the interest of the fraternity it is necessary that the regulations laid down in the Constitution

should be carried out. All those elected to the office of Master will have to undergo examination so that I may know that they possess the necessary qualifications. The office of Master is one of great honor as well as responsibility, and should only be conferred upon those qualified to maintain the highest standard of efficiency. All newly-elected Masters must be able to open and close, and exemplify the work in the three degrees.

It is expected that the Secretary of each lodge in this district shall notify me of each lodge meeting and the work to be done, as my visits, in some instances, will be governed by the work that is to be presented. It is also necessary that the Secretary shall make the returns to Grand Lodge twice in each year. This must be done as expeditiously as possible, whether the lodge can at the time forward the amount due or not.

I would also request that each lodge in this district give the matter of collection of dues immediate attention, as where the same are properly collected many valued members are retained, while on the other hand, by neglect of duty in this respect, many members permit their dues to accumulate until the amount owing becomes too burdensome to be met, and suspension for non-payment of dues necessarily follows. This action should only be taken after mature deliberation, as where suspensions occur, restorations are very few in number, and many valued adherents are lost to us. It is therefore our duty to do all we possibly can to retain those at present on our roll.

I would ask that special effort be made in every lodge to induce non-affiliate Masons of good character to join the lodge, and I have no doubt but that the best interests of the craft will be conserved if each lodge would appoint a committee whose special duty it would be to see every desirable demitted member of the lodge and endeavor to induce him to affiliate. In cases where the brethren have been suspended for non-payment of dues, I feel assured that in many cases changed circumstances will permit them to again take up their membership if a request to that effect were only presented to them. If the brother be in straitened circumstances, and unable to pay the arrears, I would ask you to consider the advisability of remitting the debt instead of debarring a worthy brother from the privilege of his lodge on account of poverty. I would ask my brethren to give these matters their kindest and best consideration.

I regret that it is necessary in some instances to direct the attention of lodges in this district to the necessity of having their furniture or buildings fully covered by insurance. I look for immediate compliance with the requirements in this respect, and would direct the attention of each lodge to the advisability of having an inventory of their belongings kept in some place other than the lodge room, so that if disaster should occur, the lodge will be in a position to fully determine its loss.

I trust it is unnecessary for me to warn members of each lodge against electioneering for office.

To all my brethren of this district I offer the assurance of my kindest and most fraternal regard, and express the sincere hope that, as in the past, friendship and brotherly love may continue to be the characteristics of the brethren of this district during my term of office.

Relying upon the hearty co-operation of each and every member of this district, I trust that the coming year will redound to the credit of each one upon whom duties will fall, and that those duties will be performed to the best of our ability and capacity.

Cordially and fraternally, yours very truly,

JAMES GLANVILLE, D. D. G. M.

And I believe all of the lodges have endeavored to comply with the requests therein contained.

I have not issued any dispensations during the past year, and where requests have been made to me they were for purposes that it would be solely within the province of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master to exercise his authority to accede to, and in each instance I forwarded the requests to the Grand Secretary.

In pursuance of a dispensation granted bearing date of the 22nd of June, I healed Josiah Thomas Couch in Orient Lodge, No. 339, on the 4th of July, 1899, and issued a certificate to him to that effect.

In this district I have been notified of the deaths of the following brethren: 16, Bro. F. Pells; Bro. F. Ody, Bro. C. Nicol, Bro. Hugh Miller; 25, R. W. Francis Richardson, Bro. S. W. Farrell; 75, Bro. Thomas Sanderson; 129, Bro. G. W. Graham; 218, Bro. George Doughty, Bro. Wm. Lunness, Bro. C. Waterman; 339, Bro. J. B. A. Daly, Bro. J. H. Ayre, Bro. J. Chisholm, Bro. H. Jones; 343, Bro. H. Tiffin; 367, Bro. John Gillett, Bro. P. Kinnear, Bro. D. C. Anderson; 410, Bro. J. W. Ellis; 430, Bro. J. M. Torrence.

The following amendments to by-laws were submitted to me by Lodge 16, to elect all officers; Lodge 25, authorizing treasurer to pay rent; Lodge 136, to change night of meeting; which I duly forwarded to and received confirmed from the Most Worshipful the Grand Master.

In the lodges there have been held 300 meetings, 225 regular and 75 emergency, and the attendance has in many cases shown a marked increase.

In too many instances are the proceedings of a lodge continued until too late an hour, and many of our more aged brethren submit this as a reason why they are not

more frequent in their attendance at the meetings of their lodge. They do not desire to leave the lodge before it is closed, but the lateness of the hour at which this is done: in many instances is too great a tax upon their vitality.

The lateness of the hour at which in some of the lodges degrees are conferred prevent many of our members from remaining to witness the exemplification, and in some of the lodges many of our brethren have not witnessed the second or third degrees for years because they have been conferred either at such a late hour or at emergent meetings, when the brethren have not had opportunity to be present. I submit for the consideration of some of the lodges in the city of Toronto the question of the advisability of conferring the second and third degree at one or two of their regular meetings at a seasonable hour during each year.

The practice which obtains in some of the lodges in the city of Toronto of "calling off" for refreshments and continuing exemplifying degrees to a beggarly array of empty benches bears the impress as though the festive board was taking precedence of the work of the lodge. I believe such actions should be deprecated, and but scant courtesy is shown to the officers of a lodge when degrees are to be conferred for the brethren to think that a convenient time to visit the ante-room. I am sure the attention of the brethren only required to be directed to these matters to result in a change being made for the better.

Many of the lodges in this district elect their officers in November and instal in December, so that a change of officers is effected when the lodges as a rule should be doing their best work. If the terms of the officers were concurrent with the meetings of Grand Lodge, the lodges then would elect their officers in May and instal in June, and much good would be accomplished, as in general the lodges do not meet during the heated term, the officers installed in June should be fully competent to undertake the duties of their respective offices by the time the lodges resume labor in September, and a change in officers, which generally retards the work, would not be necessary just at the time lodges have the most work on hand.

The majority of the lodges of the city of Toronto electing their officers in November, I deemed the latter part

of that month a fitting opportunity for holding a Lodge of Instruction, therefore, on the 29th of that month, I convened a Lodge of Instruction, under the auspices of St. John's Lodge, No. 65, in the Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto; W. Bros. J. B. Boyce and officers of St. John's Lodge, No. 65, exemplifying the first degree; W. Bro. J. J. Main and officers of St. George Lodge, No. 367, the second, and W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne and officers of Zeta Lodge, No. 410, the third.

A second Lodge of Instruction, designed to be of benefit to the northerly portions of the Toronto West and East Districts, was held through the kindness of The Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, in their fine lodge room, in the town of Aurora, and was under the joint supervision of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison and myself. At this Lodge of Instruction, held on the 23rd May, 1899, the work was divided between the lodges of the two districts, W. Bro. Norman and officers of Robertson Lodge, No. 292, King, of the Toronto West District, exemplifying the first degree; W. Bro. A. Webb, M. D., and officers of Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket, the second, and W. Bro. McClosky and officers of The Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora, the third, the two last named lodges of the Toronto East District.

The work at both of these Lodges of Instruction was of the highest standard, and I have no doubt but that much good will result. I am deeply grateful to the officers of the several lodges for their kindness in so willingly responding to my request and so fittingly presenting the degrees.

I had the pleasure of attending a Lodge of Instruction held under the direction of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, in the Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto, on which occasion I was accompanied by the officers of most of the lodges of my district, and take pleasure in testifying to the high standard of work that is being maintained in that district.

At the three mentioned Lodges of Instruction the D. D. G. M.'s of the Georgian and both of the Toronto Districts were present.

I regretted that illness prevented my attendance at the Lodge of Instruction held under the direction of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Georgian District; R. W.

Bro. J. C. Morgan, in the town of Barrie, on the 16th of March, and a prearranged visit to one of the Lodges of this district, deprived me of the pleasure of being in Port Hope on the 21st of March, when a Lodge of Instruction was held under the direction of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Ontario District, R. W. Bro. James Evans.

VISITS.

16, St. Andrew's Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: At my first visit to this, the oldest lodge in the district, and my mother lodge, on the 13th Sept., 1898, the W. M. and J. W. were absent, and as this was the first meeting of the lodge after the summer vacation no work was done, but the brethren were instructed by an entertaining address by R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, P. D. D. G. M., on boards of trial, which was presented in his usual highly creditable manner by the distinguished brother. On my second visit on October 11th, 1898, I was pleased to see the W. M., W. Bro. F. M. Bell-Smith, occupying his position. I had the pleasure of witnessing the first degree, which was ably conferred by W. Bro. A. R. McDonald, P. M., assisted by W. Bro. John Pearson, P. M., and the third degree exemplified in a fitting manner by W. Bro. J. E. Hansford, P. M., assisted by the W. M., W. Bro. Bell-Smith, and W. Bro. B. N. Davis, P. M. The candidate for the third degree on that occasion being His Worship the Mayor of the city of Toronto, Bro. John Shaw. The examination of the candidate was well conducted, and I am pleased to report that the work of all the officers was of an exceedingly high standard. To this as the oldest lodge in the city of Toronto fell the honor of holding a meeting, at which the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, was greeted by his brethren of the city of Toronto lodges, and when on the night of the 2nd of November we were honored by the presence of the Grand Master, the beautiful hall was crowded to excess by the brethren of all the lodges. I had the pleasure of seeing the W. M. confer the first degree upon the son of one of the esteemed P.M.'s of this lodge at their meeting on Nov. 8th, 1898, at which meeting this lodge amended their by-law relating to election of officers, so that now they elect all their officers. I was pleased to note the very large amount which this lodge devoted to benevolent purposes at their December

meeting. At their meeting on Jan. 10, 1899, it was my pleasure to witness the first degree as presented by the newly-installed officers. The W. M., W. Bro. H. T. Smith, performed his work with honor to himself and credit to his lodge, and was ably supported by all his officers. On this occasion the W. M.'s of the majority of the city lodges were present, also the W. M. of Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket, and his officers. This meeting having been chosen as the one at which the committee appointed at the meeting of the "Old" Toronto District carried into effect the duties then relegated to them, and through the Chairman, W. Bro. A. L. Malone, District Secretary, presented my predecessor, R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple, with a suit of regalia as a slight evidence of appreciation, on behalf of the lodges of the district over which he so ably presided. At their meeting on the 14th March, 1899, I witnessed the second degree, which on that occasion was not up to the standard required, and I trust the officers of this year will give evidence of application to their duties to the office which honors them. This lodge was honored at their meeting of 9th May by a visit from the officers and members of Jerusalem Lodge, Bowmanville, and I must congratulate W. Bro. D. B. Simpson and his officers for rendering the first degree so acceptably. St. Andrew's on this occasion was assisted in honoring her visitors by the presence of the W. M. of nearly all the city lodges and a distinguished array of talented brethren. This lodge is to be congratulated upon having such an efficient Secretary as W. Bro. J. T. Slater, P. M., and all its affairs are in an exceedingly flourishing condition.

23, Richmond Lodge, Masonic Hall, Richmond Hill: Through the kindness of the W. M. and officers of Stevenson Lodge, No. 218, Toronto, I had the pleasure of journeying in their genial company on the evening of my visit to this lodge, 21st April, 1899, on which occasion they were accompanied by the majority of the W. M.'s of the city lodges. I was greeted with a very large attendance of the brethren, over 100 being present, and the first degree was exemplified by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Coombs, was satisfactory in every particular. I desire to congratulate the W. M. upon his excellent rendition. The assistant officers of this lodge are young, bright brethren, who evince a desire to present the work in correct form. Although this lodge is not strong in

point of numbers, nor have they prospects of a material increase in membership, they are in a sound financial condition, and afford a striking example to many stronger lodges of what can be accomplished by unanimity of purpose. The books of the lodge are well kept, and it is pleasing to know that old Richmond will ably sustain its position under the present officers.

25, Ionic Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: On my first visit to this lodge on Oct. 4th, 1898, I could not but be impressed by the unanimity of purpose which seemed to have permeated every officer and every member, and I am sure that the eminence to which this lodge has attained must be gratifying to the long line of distinguished craftsmen who have had the honor of being Master of such a lodge, and I am free to confess that I was surprised to find our ceremonies so faultlessly presented even where the lodge was presided over by such an impressive and magnificent exponent of our ritualistic ceremonies as W. Bro. E. B. Brown, W. M. It was my privilege to witness the exemplification of both the first and second degrees. The work was magnificent, and I would be making no invidious distinction were I to particularize the work of the acting J. D., who gave the most pleasing presentation of that officer's duties that it has ever been my fortune to witness. My pleasure in visiting the lodge on this occasion was enhanced by being privileged to assist in welcoming the genial and well-beloved G. S. W., R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, on his first visit to his lodge, and also to listen with delight to W. Bro. W. G. Eakins, P. M., who honored the brethren by his exceedingly able and interesting address on the "Meaning of some of the expressions made use of in our ceremonies." I must congratulate this lodge upon the wisdom displayed of having something valuable presented by some talented brother at each meeting of the lodge. The books of the lodge are kept in a manner to conform to the whole of the work of this lodge and leave nothing to be desired. When visiting this lodge again, on February 7th, 1899, the impressions left of my first visit were revived, and I am sure that Ionic Lodge will prosper exceedingly under the administration of the present W. M., W. Bro. F. Harcourt, who exemplified the whole of the first degree in his exceedingly capable manner. He was magnificently assisted by his officers. I had the pleasure of

witnessing a second initiation by the W. M.'s of St. Andrew's, Ashtar and Doric Lodges. The musical ritual as given on this visit was beautiful, and materially added to the impressiveness of the ceremony. I was again impressed by the treat provided by this lodge in listening to the G. S.W., R.W. Bro. Postlethwaite, who instructed and entertained those present on the pleasing subject, "What is Masonry?" The lodge is to be congratulated upon possessing such an indefatigable Secretary, and has had the honor of having the largest number of affiliations and the greatest increase in membership during this year of any lodge in the district and was entirely free from S. N. P. D. and withdrawals; yet it could hardly be expected otherwise.

75, St. John's Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: My first visit to this lodge was on Oct. 3rd, 1898, at which I had the pleasure of witnessing the first degree conferred upon four candidates, the W. M., W. Bro. J. G. Boyce, upon the first, and the others were conferred by R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, D. D. G. M., Toronto West District, No. 11, W. Bro. M. Stewart, P. M., and V. W. Bro. Jos. Tomlinson, A. G. S., and the work was, as would be expected from the qualifications of the officers of this lodge, of an exceptionally high standard, and this lodge must be congratulated upon the assistance rendered them by their efficient choir. I was deeply impressed by the excellent character of material which this lodge is receiving and the evidences of unanimity among the brethren. This lodge is exceptionally progressive, and is the strongest in point of membership and invested funds of any in the district, and I am pleased to note the benevolent spirit exhibited by them. The Treasurer, Bro. W. N. Eastwood, has been enabled to materially reduce the amount of outstanding dues, so that it is comparatively small at present. It was necessary for me to direct the Secretary's attention to some changes necessary in the keeping of the books of the lodge, which I noticed at subsequent meetings had received attention. At this meeting V. W. Bro. Jos. Tomlinson was honored by his brethren on his first visit to his mother lodge since his appointment as A. G. S. by being presented with a suit of regalia befitting his exalted rank, on behalf of the brethren of his lodge. It was my pleasure to request this lodge to exemplify the first degree at the Lodge of Instruction

held in their hall on the 29th November, 1898, and I am deeply grateful for the many courtesies extended by them on that occasion. I was delighted to again visit this lodge on the 3rd April, 1899, when two candidates were received and the work of the W. M., W. Bro. J. G. Boyce, upon the first of these and that of W. Bro. Spencer Love, I. P. M., assisted by the W. M.'s of St. Andrew's and St. George, upon the second, left nothing to be desired. The charge as delivered by the W. M., was exceptionally pleasing. I had the honor of installing the officers of this lodge on the 24th June, 1899, and I have no doubt but that St. John's will be able to maintain the proud position it now holds under the present W. W. M., Bro. M. Leverty, who will be assisted by a very efficient staff of officers.

87, Markham Union Lodge, Masonic Hall, Markham: When I arrived at Markham on the evening of February 24th, 1899, I was honored in being received by my old and tried friend, R. W. Bro. G. R. Vanzant, and I had great pleasure in meeting my brethren. A lodge of this description, where so few of their members reside in the town where the lodge is held, must find it difficult to maintain the standard of efficiency that is required. Only seven of their members reside near to the lodge, and their meetings are often poorly attended. However, the brethren express hopeful views, and I am pleased to see the progress they are making this year, and accord to them all honor for the efforts they are putting forth. The W. M., W. Bro. Green, residing at Locust Hill, deserves congratulation for the interest he displays, and I have no doubt but that his energies will bring forth good results. I had pleasure in witnessing the exemplification of the third degree, the opening and closing in the several degrees, and the conferring of the ceremony for the first time by the W. M. and his officers was very fine, and I was afforded opportunity of witnessing the care and attention that is devoted to the preparation of candidates for advancement in the north-eastern portion of this district. When frequent opportunities of rehearsing the work are not afforded, as in this lodge, to see such good work reflects great credit upon the assiduity of the officers. Owing to a concert held in the town hall in aid of the town library, it militated somewhat against some of the brethren attending, but there were a larger number present than I antici-

pated. W. Bro. Mason, P. M., appears to be a careful and painstaking Secretary, and I look for this lodge to more than maintain their prestige under the present officers.

97, Sharon Lodge, Masonic Hall, Sharon: The night of my visit to this lodge was intensely cold and very stormy, and could not but deter all but the most ardent craftsmen from venturing from their warm fireside; yet on the night of the 21st March, 1899, through the kindness of the S. W., Bro. A. J. Traviss, who placed himself at my disposal, I enjoyed the drive from Newmarket in his comfortable cutter, and a pleasant party composed of several of the P. M.'s of Tuscan Lodge, under the guidance of their genial W. M., W. Bro. A. Webb, M. D., accompanied us. This lodge has only held its own in point of membership during the last ten years, and that it has continued to exist owing to its limited sphere reflects credit upon those who have devoted their energies to its interests. Whilst the situation and approaches of the lodge room are not what could be desired, the room itself is attractive, and I believe the brethren are doing as well as could be expected under their circumstances. The attendance book shows that at times it has been difficult to secure sufficient attendance to properly conduct the business of the lodge, and it was gratifying to me to be greeted by a large number of my brethren. The distance from the lodge room at which the officers of a lodge like Sharon reside, prevent meetings for rehearsal of work, and the quality of the work presented for my inspection exceeded my expectations. The second degree, as exemplified by the W. M., W. Bro. R. Breckon, was extremely creditable, and the work of the S. W., Bros. A. J. Traviss, gratifying. His general work and his delivery of the lecture of the degree required only commendation. In the absence of the J. W., S. D. and J. G., whose presence could hardly be expected on such a bitter night, owing to the distance at which they reside, their places were ably filled by three of the P. M.'s of the lodge, W. Bros. Melon, Power and Leppard. It was a source of gratification to me to hear the charge rendered in such an able manner by W. Bro. J. T. Power, P. M. The candidate for advancement was exceedingly well posted, as shown by his examination, and as is usual in the rural lodges of this district, much attention is devoted to instruction of

candidates for advancement. The books of the lodge, as kept by W. Bro. B. F. Pearson, P. M., were found in a state of efficiency, as would be expected from such an enthusiastic brother. I am pleased to know that this lodge will show an advancement this year and trust that prosperity will be their lot.

99, Tuscan Lodge, Masonic Hall, Newmarket: My visit to this lodge on the 8th February, 1899, was one of the most happy of the many pleasing incidents which have marked my term of office, and I was grateful on meeting our beloved Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. Rev. H. S. Mathews, and the officers and members of The Rising Sun and Sharon Lodges, and the many genial and enlightened P. M.'s of this lodge, and a large assemblage of the brethren. This was, I think, the coldest night of the winter, and the attendance of the brethren evinces the interest they take in all the meetings of the lodge. The registration book gave evidence of continued interest, the meetings being well attended. I missed the genial face of W. Bro. D. H. B. Phillips, whose demise we all lament. Although not having a candidate, at my request the first degree was exemplified, and the work of W. Bro. Webb, W. M., and his officers was such as would be anticipated from a lodge which has the continued and careful supervision of such a magnificent ritualist as R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M. At my request this lodge exemplified the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction held in Aurora on the 23rd of May, 1899, and I am deeply grateful for their kindness on that and many occasions. The books of the lodge are well kept, and I am certain that old Tuscan will make material progress in the near future.

129, The Rising Sun Lodge, Masonic Hall, Aurora: My first visit to this lodge was on the 3rd March, 1899, and to me was most enjoyable. I was welcomed by a very large assemblage of the brethren, although the night was very disagreeable. I was gratified at the undoubted evidence of the truly Masonic spirit which animates the lodge. I had also the pleasure of meeting W. Bro. Webb, W. M., R. W. Bro. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., and the officers of Tuscan Lodge, and W. Bro. Powers, P. M., and officers of Sharon Lodge, and W. Bro. Crossley, P. ., and officers of Robertson Lodge. They have a magnificent lodge room, and with some slight alterations in ante-room accommodation would leave nothing

to be required. I had the pleasure of witnessing the first degree and the opening and closing ceremonies of the second and third, and the W. M. W. Bro. McClosky and his officers acquitted themselves most creditably. This lodge is to be congratulated upon the efficiency of its officers. The attendance book gave evidence of the interest taken by the members in the meetings of their lodge, and the books of the lodge as kept by their efficient Secretary, W. Bro. Radcliffe, P. M., leave only the best impressions. At my request a Lodge of Instruction was held in this lodge on the 23rd of May, 1899, at which W. Bro. McClosky and his officers fittingly presented the third degree, and I am deeply grateful for the many courtesies extended to me by my brethren of The Rising Sun.

136, Richardson Lodge, Masonic Hall, Stouffville: When visiting this lodge on April 19th, 1899, I was pleased to again meet W. Bro. O'Brien, W. M., and officers and members of Zeredatha Lodge, also brethren from Markham Union and Brock Lodges. I was greeted with a large representation of members and was pleased to see by the register the continued interest shown by the members. The examination of a candidate for passing, and the opening, closing and exemplification of the second degree by the W. M., W. Bro. G. Collard, left nothing to be desired. As is customary in this portion of the district, when a candidate prior to passing or raising is presented to the Wardens for examination, they are enabled to prove their proficiency for advancement. This example might be emulated by the other portions this district to advantage. The books of the lodge are well kept, and Bro. Hand evinces the kindest interest in all the affairs of the lodge. The brethren who are in office give promise of this lodge being well officered for years to come.

218, Stevenson Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: I had the honor of visiting this lodge on the 10th October, 1898, when two candidates were initiated, the first by the W. M., W. Bro. Wilson, and in the second he was ably assisted by W. Bro. John Watson, P. M., and V. W. Bro. J. W. Jones, G. S. B., and I am pleased to report that the work of all the officers was exceedingly creditable, and the W. M. is entitled to all honor for the expeditious manner in which he handled the general business of the lodge. The books

evinced evidence of careful work on the part of the Secretary, Bro. J. L. Little, the register giving evidence of increased attendance, and all their affairs are in a very prosperous condition. It was with anticipated pleasure that I again visited this lodge on the 13th March, 1899, and I was gratified on meeting the W. M., officers and members of Ionic, St. John's, Doric and Occident Lodges. This lodge has now adopted the principle of having a P. M. as Secretary, and the books of the lodge as kept by W. Bro. Higginbottom, are first-class examples of what would be expected of one who is so efficient, and by his efforts material reduction has been made in the amount of arrears for dues. As they have appeared on their annual statements his books are according to the prescribed form and beautifully kept. The W. M., W. Bro. E. Egan, exceeded my expectations in his rendition of our beautiful ceremonies. He knew the work and had confidence in himself, and rendered it in such a manner as to call forth the highest encomiums. It was exceptionally pleasing his conferring of the first degree, and I was gratified to hear the charge rendered by him in such a beautiful manner. When a second candidate was received I again had opportunity of hearing the W. M.'s of Ionic and Doric Lodges perform their allotted duty with honor to themselves and their respective lodges. This lodge has made remarkable progress during the year, as is but fitting under such able administration as it has had.

220, Zeredatha Lodge, Masonic Hall, Uxbridge: I visited this lodge on the 27th March, 1899, and was pleased to find them so comfortably situated in their new hall, and in a little time they will have a very convenient and pleasant lodge and ante-room. The register shows the continued interest taken by the members, and I was gratified to note the regular and large attendance of their P. M.'s. It was with pleasure that I met the W. M., W. Bro. G. Collard, of Richardson Lodge, and renewed old acquaintance with the P. M.'s of this lodge. The reading of three applications for membership augurs well for their prosperity. The examination of a candidate for passing was particularly well done, reflecting great credit upon his instructors. I was pleased to hear him repeat the O. B. in such an accurate manner. It is very seldom it is given as accurate, even by W. M.'s when conferring the degree. I had pleasure

in witnessing the conferring of the first degree by V. W. Bro. H. J. Gould, and the opening, closing and exemplification of the second degree by the W. M., W. Bro. O'Brien. The work of all the officers was remarkably good, and they are entitled to the highest commendation for their efficient services. The books of the Treasurer and Secretary are well kept, and Zeredatha Lodge is entitled to the congratulation of the lodges of this district for the high standard of efficiency they are maintaining. I regretted to hear what perhaps was the valedictory of my predecessor, R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple, P. D. D. G. M., who has been honored by his country in his appointment to membership in the judiciary, and which will necessitate his removal to the field of his future labors.

269, Brougham Union Lodge, Temperance Hall, Brougham: When visiting this lodge on the 29th of March, 1899, I had the pleasure of a nice drive from Locust Hill, through the kindness of the W. M., W. Bros. A. E. Major. This lodge has only a few members in Brougham, and many of the members have long journeys in order to attend the meetings of the lodge, and when the weather is disagreeable it is well-nigh impossible to have a quorum present. During the year of 1898 this lodge held six meetings, at three of which they had only a sufficient number of members to open the lodge. The lodge room occupied by them is used for other meetings, which is objectionable. The books of the lodge reflect great credit upon Bro. D. R. Beaton, the register showing that they have not had an initiation since December, 1896. This is the only lodge in this district which shows a decrease in membership during the last ten years, and I regret to know will still further decrease this year. I was pleased to meet the W. M., W. Bro. Green, and the officers of Markham Union Lodge at this meeting. The lodge was not opened until 8:45, and at my request was opened and closed in the three degrees, which was done creditably. Over an hour was spent in adjusting questions of difference of opinion as to what had contributed against the prosperity of this lodge. Quite a few questions on constitutional law were asked and answered, I think, satisfactorily to the brethren. I addressed the brethren at length as to what I considered should be done at once. As I understand the W. M. can only confer the first de-

gree, it will be necessary for the officers to perfect themselves in their several duties, and when meetings of the lodge are called have the meetings held, if at all possible. Time is too valuable in this busy life to drive some miles, often at considerable inconvenience, anticipating pleasure at meeting in lodge with your brethren, and then to find that much valuable time is wasted, and that the officers, knowing there is no work to be done in many cases, do not attend, so that those who come miles have only opportunity of waiting impatiently for an hour or two, and then wend their way home with a feeling that the evening has not been well spent. This should not be; and if this lodge is to continue its existence radical changes are required in its method of conducting business.

316, Doric Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: At my first visit to this lodge, on 20th Oct., 1898, the brethren devoted their time to discussing the state of affairs which exist in this lodge, and appointed a committee to see if a more brotherly feeling could not be engendered among its members. I was pleased to see such a large representation of its P. M.'s as were present exemplifying the interest taken by them in the welfare of the lodge. When visiting this lodge again on April 20th, 1899, I had the pleasure of witnessing the initiation of two candidates, and the work of the W. M., W. Bro. J. E. Cook, and his officers was exceedingly creditable, and I have no doubt but that the exemplification of our ceremonies during the term of office of the present W. M. will be fully up to the standard of excellence which must necessarily be maintained. It will require the display of tact on the part of those who are entrusted with the government of this lodge, and no doubt all the brethren who are interested in its welfare will be called upon to sacrifice a large portion of their time and endure many discouragements if this lodge is to continue its existence under present circumstances. The present state of affairs cannot long continue, and it is to be hoped that there is a brighter future for this lodge, which has many enlightened brethren among its members. If a more fraternal feeling was exhibited by some of the brethren affairs would soon right themselves. The Secretary, Bro. H. E. Griffiths, has his books in first-class order, and the Treasurer, R. W. Bro. Ardagh, P. G. J. W., deserves congratulation upon the

efforts he is putting forth to discharge the duties of his office.

339, Orient Lodge, Masonic Hall, corner East Queen street and Bolton avenue, Toronto: I was honored in being requested to instal the officers of this lodge at their meeting on 6th December, 1898, and at that meeting I was deeply impressed with the spirit of benevolence exhibited by the members of this lodge. I was greeted with a very large attendance, and at the opening of the Board of Installed Masters there were 32 present, evincing the interest taken in the installation for the third time of V. W. Bro. John Jones. On this occasion two pleasing episodes were the conferring of life membership on that pillar of strength to this lodge, W. Bro. Ira Bates, and the presentation of a P. M.'s jewel to the retiring W. M., W. Bro. J. W. Thompson. The books of the lodge, as kept by Bro. D. J. Kelly, display evidences of ability and attention. I next visited this lodge on 4th April, 1899, and found that the register gave evidence of large attendance of members and visitors, and I had the pleasure of witnessing the second degree conferred in an admirable manner by the W. M., W. Bro. John Jones, assisted by some of the P. M.'s of the lodge. The work of all the officers was very good. At the regular meeting of this lodge, held on the 4th of July, 1899, I healed Josiah Thomas Couch, as per dispensation of the M. W. the G. M. to me, under date of 22nd June, 1899, and at that meeting W. Bro. John Patton, P. M., who had been honored by this lodge by being made a life member, presented the lodge with a magnificent portrait of himself and ably entertained the brethren present with recollections of the early days of Orient Lodge, and the trials and triumphs of its members. While at this meeting no degrees were exemplified. The opening and closing in the three degrees was well and creditably performed. I regret that this lodge had a very large decrease in membership, mainly caused by S. N. P. D. I trust this is now ended in this lodge. The utmost care and attention is required in the management of this lodge, and I trust that the efforts of the W. M., V. W. Bro. John Jones, will meet with the success that they deserve.

343, Georgina Lodge, Masonic Hall, corner College street and Brunswick avenue, Toronto: When visiting this lodge for the first time on the 3rd December, 1898,

I was impressed by the feeling of benevolence exhibited by the brethren of this lodge and by the remarkable progress made by them. In the last four years they have had 110 initiations and have now a membership of 188, ranking fourth in point of number of lodges in this district. On the occasion of my visit honorary membership was conferred upon M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, G. M., R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins, P. D. D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. Ardagh, P. G. J. W., and in so doing this lodge honored themselves. They have a magnificent lodge-room and are endeavoring to sustain the honor of our beloved fraternity. The work of the officers on the occasion of my visit in the opening and closing of the three degrees was of the highest standard, and the W. M., W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, although suffering from a severe cold, yet as a faithful worker deemed it his duty to be present and in conferring the third degree gave a very pleasing presentation. On the occasion of my second visit, 1st April, 1899, I was pleased to meet the W. M., officers and members of St. John's, Zetland and Alpha Lodges, and a very large attendance of members and visitors. The register gives evidence of continued interest, and I was pleased to note the very large proportion of their members who attend the meetings regularly. The exemplification of the first degree as presented by the W. M., W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, and his officers on this occasion, left nothing to be desired, and I am sure it cannot be but pleasing to the brethren who have fostered this lodge to witness the efficiency it has attained. I was pleased to hear the W. M. present the charge in such an acceptable manner. I feel confident that the interests of this lodge will be fully conserved under the officers, who were installed in June last.

354, Brock Lodge, Masonic Hall, Cannington: I looked forward with great pleasure to my visit to this magnificent and progressive lodge, and when on the 22nd of February, 1899, I met my brethren in their very pretty lodge room, I was greeted with a large attendance of brethren. I was well pleased. The register gave evidence of the continued interest of the brethren, and I was impressed with the regularity of the attendance of the P. M.'s, who on every occasion turn out in large numbers. As in the other lodges in this portion of this district, I was pleased with the care and attention de-

voted to the preparation of candidates for advancement, and on this occasion the brother being passed reflected great credit upon those who took an interest in his welfare. From the character and ability of the officers of this lodge I anticipated first-class work, and when I witnessed the second degree as presented by the W. M. McLeod and his officers, I was delighted and feel assured that this lodge will be well officered for many years to come. The Secretary's books are well kept and show careful attention, but the signatures of brethren supposed to be subscribed to by-laws are valuable only as a collection of autographs, and I have no doubt, attention having been directed to this oversight, it will receive attention.

367, St. George Lodge, Masonic Hall, corner West Queen street and Bathurst street, Toronto: This lodge was requested by me to exemplify the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction held in the city of Toronto on the 29th November, 1898, and on that occasion amply justified the confidence reposed in them. I am grateful to W. Bros. J. J. Main and his officers for the splendid exemplification presented on that occasion and for the many graceful courtesies extended to me. Visited this lodge on the 2nd December, 1898, to have the pleasure of seeing my old friend, Bro. J. W. Hickson, installed as Master by that genial friend of his youth, R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., and I was pleased to see such a large and representative assemblage of the brethren testifying to the popularity of St. George. The Master and newly-installed officers performed the duties which devolved upon them in an exceedingly creditable manner. They are all tried and trusty brethren, and the affairs of this lodge should prosper under their guidance. This lodge is favored by having a very large staff of P. M.'s who attend regularly, and in their Secretary, W. Bro. W. J. Guy, P. M., they have one whose work leaves nothing to be desired. The night of my second visit to this lodge, April 7th, 1899, was a very disagreeable one, yet, as on my former visit, I was greeted with a large attendance. The W. M.'s and officers of six of the city lodges, by their presence, made the meeting a very pleasant one. I was pleased to witness the exemplification of the first degree as presented by the W. M., W. Bro. J. W. Hickson and his officers, and I am sure they will endeavor to uphold the prestige

of St. George. The progress of this lodge has been marked, and in the hands of the present officers their enviable reputation will be fully sustained.

410, Zeta Lodge, Masonic Hall, 1299 West Queen street, Toronto: On the occasion of my first visit to this prosperous lodge on the 28th October, 1898, this lodge was honored with the presence of the M. W. the Grand Master, and, as at many of the meeting of this district, we had three D. D. G. M.'s present. My confrere, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, the genial D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, whose co-operation and support has been a source of great strength and support to me, also the D. D. G. M. of South Huron District, R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, accompanied me to assist our brethren of Zeta in honoring our beloved Grand Master. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, and the pretty lodge room was well filled. This might have been termed a presentation night, as the lodge honored three of their P. M.'s on this occasion. It was with pleasure that I witnessed an exemplification of the first degree, and W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, W. M., and his officers ably sustained the reputation this lodge has earned for good work. The books of the lodge were found to be in good order. At my request this lodge exemplified the third degree at the Lodge of Instruction held in the city of Toronto on the 29th November, and I am intensely gratified at their magnificent success. I was honored by being requested to instal the officers of this lodge at their meeting on Dec. 23rd, 1898, which ceremony, with the valued assistance of the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, I had pleasure in performing, and I am sure that the present W. M., W. Bro. D. C. Little, will proudly maintain the standard of efficiency of this exceedingly progressive lodge. It was my pleasure to again visit this lodge on the 28th April, 1899, and found that the interest of the members in the meetings of the lodge was being sustained. The opening and closing of the three degrees was exceedingly gratifying, and the W. M. and officers fully sustained the reputation of their lodge in their magnificent presentation of the third degree. I look for the prosperity which this lodge is enjoying being continuous.

424, Doric Lodge, Masonic Hall, Pickering: The day of my visit to this lodge, Dec. 22nd, 1898, was very dis-

agreeable, and the wet and stormy weather militated against a good attendance. When viewing the register I found that the average attendance would be little more than is absolutely necessary, the same names appearing with but little change, and the burden of sustaining this lodge, although falling on a few willing workers, must at times be irksome. The example set by this lodge in the distribution of beneficence is meritorious and could well be followed by the stronger lodges of the district. Owing to their environments, this lodge can not expect large additions to their membership, and their progress this year is most pleasing. The approaches to the lodge room were not in a desirable condition, and the room itself would be benefitted by an airing before each meeting. The ante-room accommodation is not good, and being separated from the lodge room by only a thin partition, the talking of brethren in the ante-room is distinctly heard in the lodge room, and doubtless vice versa. I directed the attention of the lodge to the advisability of keeping the approaches presentable and also of some change being made in the present state of the ante-room. Bro. Geo. Parker, the Secretary, appears to do his best, but at my request some changes will be made in the method of keeping their books, as in another lodge in this district the book kept ostensibly for signatures to by-laws is valuable only as a collection of autographs. I was pleased that on the occasion of my visit I was privileged to see a candidate initiated, the first in this lodge since July, 1896. The work was exceedingly well done, the W. M., W. Bro. Gormley, giving a very pleasing presentation of that ceremony, and in which he had the able assistance of W. Bro. Kerr, P. M., and Bro. Bunting, S. W., and Bro. Greig, of Alpha Lodge, 22 J. W. At my request the W. M. opened in the second and third degrees, and the work was creditably performed. It afforded me pleasure to install the newly-elected officers, and under the administration of the W. M., W. Bro. Bunting, there is no doubt but that the interests of this lodge will be well looked after. I trust that the measure of success will come to this lodge that their efforts merit.

430, Acacia Lodge, Masonic Hall, East Toronto: It afforded me pleasure to install the officers of this lodge on the 19th December, 1898, assisted by my confrere, the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W.

Bro. Curran Morrison, and through the kindness of W. Bro. Angus, W. M., and the members of Zetland Lodge, who were officially visiting Acacia on that evening, my journey to this lodge in their private car was exceedingly enjoyable. It was necessary for me to direct the attention of the lodge to the books of the Secretary, which had not been kept in accordance with the rules, and I have no doubt but that the present Secretary, Bro. H. A. Giles, will leave nothing to be desired. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, and I was pleased to see their pretty lodge room well filled. The newly installed officers acquitted themselves very creditably. On the occasion of my second visit on 17th April, 1899, I was pleased to note that the meetings held since my former visit were largely attended, and the interest taken by the P. M.'s of the lodge cannot but be gratifying. I anticipated witnessing good work at the hands of the W. M., W. Bro. W. J. H. Carnahan, and his officers, and in this I was not disappointed. Their presentation of the first degree was fully up to the high standard that such an accomplished W. M. would require, and I am sure that the interests of Acacia will be fully conserved by the present officers. I regret that business requirements prevented my accompanying my brethren of Acacia on their visit to Composite Lodge, Whitby, on the 1st of June last. I have pleasure in reporting that the regulation respecting payment of the expenses of the D. D. G. M. has in each instance been duly observed by the lodges of this district. Examination after raising is not usual among the majority of the lodges in this district. I have requested that this matter be more honored in its observance. The remarks formerly made use of in the majority of cases relative to the lectures and charges, I trust, will not now be heard with such frequency. I deemed it advisable to insist that the lectures and charges be given when degrees are conferred.

The many happy hours spent at the refreshment board with my brethren of each lodge have left pleasant memories. To those lodges who have extended their courtesies to the families and friends of their members at their at-homes, I have no doubt much good will accrue. To all of the lodges I tender my grateful expression of appreciation for the many kindnesses extended to me.

To the R. W., the G. S. W., R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, the R. W., the Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. Rev. H. S. Matthews, the V. W. A. G. Sec., V. W. Bro. Jos. Tomlinson and the Grand Standard Bearer, V. W. Bro. J. W. Jones, through whose unremitting attention and constant visitation my duties have been materially lessened, I desire to express my warmest appreciation.

I am under deep obligations to my confreres, the D. D. G. M.'s of the Georgian and Toronto West Districts for their continued co-operation and support, and I am sure my duties became a pleasure when sustained by their strength and geniality.

The R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, has been unremitting in his consideration, and I have had the benefit of his wisdom and experience and the pleasure of his company in nearly all of my visits to the lodges of this district. R. W. Sir, I thank you.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, I am grateful for the courtesies extended and kindly consideration accorded me.

To all my brethren whom it has been a privilege to meet I desire to express my thanks for the many kindnesses extended to me, with the assurance that the year that is gone will indeed be pleasant to look back upon.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES GLANVILLE, D. D. G. M.,
Toronto East District, No. 11A.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Toronto East District, No. 11a, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Membership.		Degree's conf'r'd		Admissions.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions N. P. D.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief	No of members 12 months	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.		
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	B. A.						F. C.	M. M.	Regular.										Emergency.	Total.
16	St. Andrew	Toronto	225	2		15	10	11	4	12	1	5	11	6	17	44	195 00	40	\$339 65	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	Half trst	
23	Richmond Hill	Richmond Hill	30	1		2	3	2	1	1	1	12	12	12	14	4	5 00	4	17 25	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	Half trst	
25	Ionie	Toronto	221	21		16	13	13	8	1	2	3	10	2	12	40	80 00	10	111 00	Dec. 27, '98	Excellent	Yes	Yes	Half trst	
75	St. John's	Toronto	227	20		22	21	24	6	1	2	5	11	6	17	46	127 40	...	...	Dec. 27, '98	Excellent	Yes	Yes	Half trst
87	Mark'h'm U	Markham	34	4		3	2	2	1	...	...	12	12	13	14	15	5 00	...	...	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	500 00
97	Sharon	Sharon	48	1		1	2	2	1	...	...	11	11	12	12	37 50	9	26 00	Dec. 27, '98	Solvent	Fair	Yes	Yes	200 00
99	Tuscan	Newmarket	50	4		4	3	4	1	...	...	12	6	18	18	...	...	21	31 00	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	1500 00
129	Rising Sun	Aurora	55	3		8	5	5	1	4	...	1	13	6	19	19	...	8	125 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Yes	Yes	200 00	
136	Richards'n	Stouffville	35	3		2	2	2	1	...	...	3	12	6	18	56	85 00	12	125 00	June 24, '98	First class	Yes	Yes	Half trst
218	Stevenson	Toronto	184	20		23	16	12	3	3	...	4	14	13	20	25 00	10	2	21 50	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Yes	Yes	500 00	
220	Zerodathia	Uxbridge	67	...		4	3	13	...	4	...	6	5	1	6	12	25 00	10	30 75	Dec. 27, '98	Only fair	Yes	Yes	200 00	
269	Brougham	Brougham	32	6		3	5	4	...	4	...	10	10	10	25	...	...	33	388 30	Dec. 27, '97	Fair	Yes	Yes	Half trst
316	Doric	Toronto	133	3		6	9	4	2	4	...	4	6	20	40	115 37	...	...	...	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	1000 00
339	Orient	Toronto	152	16		9	9	4	2	6	5	23	1	4	14	62	40	21	370 40	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	1200 00	
343	Georgina	Toronto	188	19		25	34	8	7	10	2	1	12	12	24	34	85 00	21	20 60	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Yes	Yes	200 00	
354	Brook	Cunnington	53	6		3	9	31	1	3	...	12	12	11	10	10 00	6	318 00	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	500 00		
367	St. George	Toronto	135	6		13	13	1	2	6	1	3	12	7	19	35	39 00	7	...	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	1500 00	
410	Zeta	Toronto	102	16		18	15	13	1	4	4	1	1	11	7	18	33	15 00	Dec. 27, '98	Bright	Yes	Yes	200 00
424	Doric	Pickering	31	3		3	3	2	...	...	...	9	9	9	9	45 00	6	19 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Excellent	Yes	Yes	200 00
430	Acacia	East Toronto	74	4		6	...	3	1	...	...	1	12	2	14	25	13 00	...	190 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Yes	200 00

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

As required by constitution, I beg to submit a report on the condition of Masonry in this district during the past year.

I had the pleasure of associating with my official duties R. W. Bro. W. J. Robertson, Ontario Lodge, No. 26, as District Secretary, and Bro. the Rev. W. R. Young, of Hope Lodge, No. 114, as District Chaplain, and am under obligations to both for efficient services.

I first donned Grand Lodge regalia on Aug. 20, in Canandaigua Lodge, No. 294, Canandaigua, State of New York, whither the Port Hope Lodges had travelled to return a fraternal visit and see the M. M. degree exemplified according to New York's ritual. The turnout was very large, probably 250, and the reception most enthusiastic. Canandaigua is of Masonic history, and back in the twenties was probably the most noted Masonic place in the world. In the lodge room at present is a brick cell in which some man named Morgan spent some time for the good of his country, and about that cell centres a good deal of mythology. The work was most elaborately laid out and won our admiration.

I have been permitted to visit each of the 24 lodges in this large district once, and I think I know a good deal about every lodge—its style of work, its officers, its internal affairs. My reception as representing the Grand Lodge was very flattering, and the apparent desire everywhere was to produce a favorable impression. Upon my appointment I issued a circular drawing attention, at the Grand Master's request, to the desirability of using all wise methods to gather into the fold non-affiliates and brethren suspended for N. P. D., and at the same time stating that I would expect an exemplification of the same time stating that on my official visit I would ex-

pect an exemplification of one degree at least. I am assured that this circular, though overlooked in some cases, had a good effect. The statistical table will show how nobly many lodges responded. I have placed the lodges in numerical order for ready reference and commend the idea to the D. D. G. M.'s.

I held a District Lodge of Instruction in Port Hope on March 21st, and was honored by the presence of the Grand Master. The attendance was good and the number of lodges represented quite satisfactory. The program, which was carried out fully, was: 10 to 11 a.m., E. A. degree by Faithful Brethren, No. 77, Lindsay; 11 to 12, F. C., by J. B. Hall, No. 145, Millbrook; 2 p.m., E. A., by Fidelity, No. 428, Port Perry; 3 p.m., F. C., by Clementi, No. 313, Lakefield; 4 p.m., M. M., by Lebanon, No. 139, Oshawa, and 7:30 p.m., M. M., by Peterboro, No. 155, Peterboro.

Ontario Lodge, No. 26, Port Hope: I officially visited this, my mother lodge, on May 18th, the last official visit of my term. The attendance of members and visitors was quite flattering. The work for the evening was an initiation and a raising. Unfortunately the J.W. was absent through illness, but his chair was ably filled by the genial J. W. of J. B. Hall Lodge, an old member of Ontario. I had been present when the J. W.'s lecture on the T. B. was given by both the substitute and by Bro. Brown, and neither left anything to be improved. The traditions of the past demand from this lodge model work, but I am not quite sure that the officers were not just a little off color. It was late in the season, and I had seen W. Bro. Broughall and his genial staff work to better advantage. Everything about the lodge is done in a prompt, business-like way, and the impressive allegorical lessons of Masonry are deeply imprinted by deliberate enunciation.

Composite Lodge, No. 30, Whitby: I visited this lodge on February 2nd. The attendance was good. The opening and closing of the lodge in the several degrees, and the exemplification of the E.A. degree showed some joint practice. The lecture of the J. W. in the first degree by Bro. Hatch was exceedingly good. The brethren had noted the wishes of the Grand Master and affiliated two, and two applicants for Masonry were accepted. W. Bro. Burns is a pushing, inquisitive Master, who desires to know and do, and will leave his impress for good upon this lodge.

Jerusalem Lodge, No. 31, Bowmanville: Unofficially I visited this lodge on Nov. 23, when the Grand Master and a number of the members of St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto, were paying their devoirs to Wor. Bro. D. Burke Simpson. There were two initiations, and the officers of the lodge acquitted themselves so well that the Grand Master was quite enraptured. I officially visited the lodge on April 19th. The lay-out was one first, one second and two thirds. All the officers were in their chairs, and the work showed a finish and ease acquired only by constant practice. No greater evidence could be given of what can be accomplished by a W. M. inspired by his work, and a fixed determination to make it a success than Jerusalem exhibits. The past of the lodge has not been all prosperity, but W. Bro. Simpson's zeal roused the flagging energies, and to-day there is no more prosperous lodge than No. 31.

Mount Zion Lodge, No. 39, Brooklin: I visited this lodge Feby. 1st. I was piloted by V. W. Bro. Taylor, a veteran in the ranks. There was a time when Brooklin was quite a flourishing village, but circumstances have dealt harshly with it, and it will require a good deal of self-denial and zeal to keep the lodge supplied with active work. The turn-out was good. Every available member was in his place, and among the members are several who are prominent in the political life of the noted South Ontario constituency. The officers exemplified the first degree, and while lacking somewhat in accuracy, it was replete with good will and fraternal spirit.

Durham Lodge, No. 66, Newcastle: I visited this lodge on Feby. 7th, assisting R. W. Bro. W. J. Robertson in installing Dr. Farncombe in the chair and placing the several officers in their allotted stations. I look back with pleasure on my visit, but my fears for great prosperity coming to this lodge, the mother of many a noted Mason, have been realized. The W. M. is a genial but a very busy man, and devoted soul and body to his profession. The field is limited and seems narrowing with the years.

Faithful Brethren, No. 77, Lindsay: I visited this lodge March 3rd. The attendance was good. Lodge room very pleasant and reception most cordial. I had the pleasure of presenting to the I. P. M., W. Bro. Britton, a Past Master's jewel. The F. C. degree was ex-

emplified by the new officers. The method was ahead of the accuracy, but as the W. M. of this lodge and his officers exemplified the E. A. degree at the Lodge of Instruction, I feel quite safe in saying that Grand Lodge work will not suffer in their hands. Masonry is not a live institution in Lindsay. A few years ago two strong flourishing lodges held the ground; one retired and F. B. is by no means aggressive. I have hopes that the presence of R. W. Bro. Judge Harding may be of assistance. The Mayor was present and promised to favorably consider affiliating, and with his well-known energy would help.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 101, Peterboro: I visited this lodge Feby. 22nd. Large, magnificent room, splendid appointments, dais filled with P. M.'s, every available seat occupied; what lacked it, nothing. The work of the evening, four initiations. The first part of the degrees with three candidates taken by Worshipfuls, Very Worshipfuls, Right Worshipfuls, and then the Master swept through in gorgeous style, completing a beautiful panorama. The J. W. had been called away by a death notice, but how impressive the deep, resonant tones of the S. W., as he carefully and emphatically traced out the entire field of Masonry on the J. W.'s T. B. The atmosphere of this prosperous baby city is full of Masonry. The lodges are gathering in the wheat and rejecting the chaff.

Hope Lodge, No. 114, Port Hope: I visited this lodge on May 5th. Ontario and Hope Lodges jointly occupy the same hall, and have for themselves a beautiful, well furnished, well equipped Masonic home. Other halls are larger; none can be more attractive or exhibit better taste in its furnishing. As ever with this lodge, the attendance was good. The first degree was exemplified, but not with marked success. During the year I have frequently visited this lodge and have seen very much better work than upon the evening when Grand Lodge's representative sat in state taking notes.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 139, Oshawa: I visited this lodge Dec. 13th. The attendance was disappointing, owing, however, to a very important meeting relating to town affairs, and by the time the fourth degree was called the audience had wonderfully increased. My train was late and I was disappointed in not seeing the first degree. I had, however, the full benefit of the third,

which was given in a most impressive, if not very accurate manner by W. Bro. Punshon. One Master told me, and I suppose no Master in the district could more fairly claim the license than the Master of Lebanon, "That no elocutionist ever bound himself down to accuracy." I liked the manner of giving this degree so well that the officers were invited to exemplify it at Lodge of Instruction and fully met the highest expectations.

J. B. Hall Lodge, No. 145, Millbrook: I visited this lodge on April 20th. I was accompanied by V. Wor. Bro. Dr. Might, one of the founders of the lodge, and who has ever taken a warm interest in its affairs. The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Smith and a full staff of officers. J. B. Hall has been dwelling in twilight for some time, but with its present staff is taking on new life and promises well for the future. The work was well done and the spirit manifested throughout very inspiring. This case well exemplifies how much may be done by officers who, though no work is in hand or sight, stand ready by regular practice for what may offer. For our Lodge of Instruction I asked the W. M. to take one of the degrees, and he cheerfully assented, and the interest in the village was at once roused in the success of the team, and work followed as a natural consequence.

Peterboro Lodge, No. 155, Peterboro: I visited this lodge on March 8th. The work was the exemplification of the third degree upon two candidates. The spacious hall was well filled. As in Corinthian, there were P. M.'s galore. I have always possessed a low estimate of the Mason whose Masonry ends with a year in the east, and conversely I have great respect for lodges like the Peterboroughs, which can count on the attendance and counsel of dozens who have won the highest honor the lodge could grant. Peterboro Lodge is the largest in the district and is up-to-date everywhere. Its J. W. is a driller of candidates. The examination of the last raised, as well as of the to be raised, was thorough and most satisfactory. I fear the former examination is not insisted upon in the lodges. This lodge was selected for the place of honor, exemplifying the M. M. degree in the evening at our Lodge of Instruction, and right faithfully did it maintain the confidence reposed in it. There can be nothing better than this lodge.

Norwood Lodge, No. 223, Norwood: I visited this

lodge on Feby. 21st. My predecessor handed this lodge to his successor for decent burial. I went down by the noon train and got a brother to show me round, and by evening I found a corpse most unwilling to be buried. W. Bro. Hutchinson is easy-going, but very sure-footed, and we had an application from a most respected and influential citizen, and two or three for affiliation. The first degree was exemplified in a fairly creditable manner, and I have hopes of old Norwood yet.

Verulam Lodge, No. 268, Bobcaygeon: I visited this lodge on Feby. 17th. The present Master is the last candidate initiated, and from his appearance better things might be expected. The I. P. M. is foreman in Boyd's mill and therefore one would think in a most influential position to draw. Bobcaygeon is a live, busy place, giving evidence of wealth and home comforts, and yet there is no Masonic enthusiasm anywhere within its bounds. I would like to spend a day or two with Mr. Smiff finding out why this is thusly.

Cedar Lodge, No. 270, Oshawa: I visited this lodge on Feby. 28th. The Oshawa brethren mingle with each other in the most cordial way, and I was told that even in business matters the brethren forget to which lodge they belong. Last year's returns gave to both exactly the same membership, but Cedar has slightly gained during the year. The J. W. and S. W. gave the lectures on their respective tracing boards with good effect. The exemplification of the third degree was a disappointment. W. Bro. Henry was a young Master of good ability, with a good staff of officers, and, I thought with environments to develop the best results, and it was one of the disappointments of my trip. I have so often thought in my visits that the Master, as he toils for accuracy, oft feels "cui bono." And yet the time comes when he wishes he had worked a little more carefully, or feels rewarded for the care bestowed, as praise or the absence of it enables him to judge results.

Clementi Lodge, No. 313, Lakefield: I visited this lodge of noble name on March 7th. W. Bro. McKay, of Corinthian; W. Bro. Conway, of Peterboro, and his J. W., Bro. Rosell, were my pilots, and creditably did they do their duty. The attendance was good; the model Secretary of the district was in his place (he always is), and a candidate awaited initiation. No time was lost in idle discussion. How often lodges are chilled by

these! and soon we were in the depths of work. The J. W. gave his lecture with good effect and the degree was impressively conferred. The officers of this lodge kindly exemplified the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction and won golden opinions for accurate work.

Orono Lodge, N. 325, Orono: I visited this lodge on Nov. 24th, Thanksgiving Day. My predecessor had not reached it, and as they had no accessions to their numbers for a long time I was anxious to lend a helping hand. The attendance was good, and from the very cordial feeling manifested I was led to hope better results during the year than the tabulated statement shows. The exemplification of the third degree was creditable to the officers. I suppose there is no help for the lodge but to be ready when work offers.

Keene Lodge, No. 374, Keene: I visited this lodge on Feby. 23rd. The turn out was complimentary and the reception pleasant. This lodge has advantage of one clergyman in the east and another in the west, and both did the work of their respective chairs in an exceedingly attractive manner. W. Bro. Shaw makes a very efficient Secretary, and is a strong pillar in the lodge. With their annual excursion, and so much to attract good material, I wonder why this lodge does not add to its numbers.

Lorne Lodge, No. 375, Omeme: I visited this lodge on March 2nd and was received by a goodly number of first-class Masons. The lodge made the terrible mistake of electing a non-resident for Master, and is consequently badly handicapped. It does seem to me that electing a brother to the chair simply for the brother's advantage is suicidal generosity. The lodge has had up-hill work financially and otherwise for several years, but had W. Bro. Macpherson or some other worthy resident taken the chair at last election hopes might be entertained of speedy recovery of old-time prestige. The first degree was well exemplified by W. Bro. Macpherson and the officers.

Victoria Lodge, No. 398, Kirkfield: I visited this lodge on Feby. 14th, and nowhere was a more cordial welcome given. Many brethren came miles, some on foot, to honor Grand Lodge's representative, and could not have manifested greater anxiety that the lodge would show up well. The Master is Wor. Bro. Mosgrove, teacher of the public school, and a busy man,

who depended upon memory to carry him creditably through the third degree, but, as oft before, memory proved very treacherous, much to Bro. Mosgrove's disgust. I carry very pleasant memories of this visit.

Spry Lodge, No. 406, Fenelon Falls: I visited this lodge Feby. 16 and had a quorum. The W. M. reluctantly undertook to exemplify a degree, and assured me I would be sorry if I insisted on seeing how work was done, and I was. I saw three very respectable looking brethren in the three principal chairs, who ignored their solemn pledges and made a sorry attempt, even by so doing, to confer the second degree upon an extemporized candidate.

Murray Lodge, No. 408, Beaverton: I visited this lodge on Feby. 13th. I spent the afternoon about the village and called upon some demitted members who, if affiliated, would strengthen the lodge. Some of these attended the meeting and we had a very pleasant time. The first degree was fairly well exemplified. The J. W.'s lecture was good and the manner of the work throughout satisfactory. The lodge needs reviving and possesses latent energy and a fairly promising field, and I look for accessions in the near future.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 428, Port Perry: I visited this lodge on Feby. 3rd. The attendance was good, and the lodge room, which has lately been furnished in artistic style, was very attractive. All the chairs were filled by the actual officers. The first degree was exemplified in up-to-date fashion and in a pleasing, dignified manner. I was so pleased with the work that I requested this lodge to take part in the Lodge of Instruction, and my confidence was not misplaced. I greatly regret that two attempts to secure the G. M. to dedicate their hall failed, and being myself unable to undertake the visit, much as I longed to do so, I deputed R. Wor. Bro. Miller and R. Wor. Bro. Rush to do the work, and they did it well.

Havelock Lodge, No. 435, Havelock: I visited this lodge on Feby. 24th and found a large attendance of bright, earnest, active Masons. We had two thirds and one first. The work was fully carried out according to Hoyle, the brethren taking a most active part in assisting the officers. This lodge has ways of its own, which would hardly suit staid, old-style places, but as its ways have developed a most prosperous lodge, I did not interfere. Time was no object, so we completed all the

duties before singing Auld Lang Syne in the wee sma hours.

Arcadia Lodge, No. 440, Minden: I visited this the baby lodge of the district on Feby. 15th. A drive of eight miles through the woods and over the hills of Haliburton landed me in an ideal Alpine village. I was soon waited upon by the Master of the lodge and arrangements completed for a prompt start. Every possible member was in his place, everything polished clean and bright for the meeting. The room is small but cosy, and even for the fourth degree provision ample. The second and third degrees were exemplified in an exceedingly creditable manner, the work of all the chairs being well and carefully done. There was evidence of team practice, and the Master seemed to fully know where every officer was placed. There is no more interesting lodge in the district.

I granted dispensations during the year to Peterboro Lodge, No. 155; to Arcadia Lodge, No. 440; to Havelock Lodge, No. 435; to Hope Lodge, No. 114; to Faithful Brethren Lodge, No. 77, to enable the brethren to attend Divine service clothed as Masons. In April I received an application from a number of brethren in Blackstock for a warrant to hold a new primary lodge in the village of Blackstock, but it was unaccompanied by a recommendation from Fidelity Lodge, No. 428, the nearest lodge, and I am advised officially that said lodge almost unanimously decided not to grant the required recommend, and from information received from prominent Masons belonging to other lodges I am led to conclude that at present it would not be in the interests of the craft to proceed further.

I tender to the brethren of Ontario District my thanks for placing me at their head, and for very many expressions in word and deed of cordiality and gratitude. During the year not a slip cog or jolt marred the pleasure of my trip; fraternity everywhere, discord nowhere.

I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the G. A. O. T. U. for so directing me in selecting evenings for my twenty-four visits; that in every case the weather was favorable, and no accident or misfortune prevented my keeping every engagement made.

I am grateful to the lodges for cheerfully bearing the expenses of my visits. Each lodge handed me a V besides in some cases, in addition entertaining me, which

latter I declined when declining was possible. No D. D. G. M. ever more enjoyed the official visits or received greater kindness from his brethren. I hope I made some return for all the trouble taken by the brethren to make it so pleasant, and if in any way any lodge in the district thinks I can promote its interests my services are at its disposal.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES EVANS, D. D. G. M.,

Ontario District, No. 12.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit for your consideration my report for the past year of Prince Edward District, No. 13. I am pleased to be able to report that the condition of nearly every lodge in the district is good and the future of Masonry looks bright. In every case the lodges were governed by good presiding officers, who are both able and willing to do all they can for the good of the order and their respective lodges in particular. I found in some particulars that there was a laxity in the payment of dues by the members of several of the lodges, but I am pleased to be able to report that in the majority of cases the dues are very well paid up. I am of opinion that this can be largely avoided if the Secretaries of the respective lodges use greater effort to get payment the first of the year.

The harmony which prevailed throughout the district when I was elected as your representative to Grand Lodge has continued throughout the year. No trouble has arisen to mar the good feeling that existed when I took the office, and I sincerely hope that my successors may have the same good fortune for years to come.

I visited all the lodges in the district on their regular nights of meeting and in every instance was received in such a cordial and hospitable manner that I shall ever feel grateful to the brethren throughout my life.

I would recommend that more attention be paid to visiting, as I find that wherever the brethren make a practice of interchanging visits it adds much to the interest of Masonry and is of material assistance in keeping up a good attendance.

I visited the lodges of my district in the following order :

Lake Lodge, No. 215: This being my mother lodge,

I made my first official visit there, on October 24th, 1898, and the work was exemplified by W. Bro. Weslev Sagar in a most satisfactory manner; the dues were well paid up, and the Secretary's books are well kept. The future for Lake Lodge looks prosperous.

Belleville Lodge, No. 123: I made my official visit to this lodge on the 3rd of November, 1898. W. Bro. Arthur Lewis conferred the first degree in excellent style. This lodge is in good shape, and counts among its members a number of able and enthusiastic Masons.

Percy Lodge, No. 161: Was visited by me on November 23rd, 1898. I was accompanied by W. Bro. Sagar, of Lake Lodge. Owing to the absence of W. Bro. Ewing, W. Bro. Humphries took the chair and did good work. The lodge is in a prosperous condition, the dues well paid up, and the Secretary's books are in good order.

United Lodge, No. 29: I spent a very pleasant evening with the Brighton brethren on November 24th, 1898. The work was exemplified in the first and second degrees by W. Bro. McLeod in good style. This lodge is in first-class condition in every respect, and the Secretary's books were especially worthy of mention. Several brethren from Trent and Lake Lodges accompanied me.

Tweed Lodge, No. 238: I visited this lodge on the evening of November 25th, 1898, and had the pleasure of the company of several brethren from Belleville. In the absence of work, the lodge opened in the three degrees, and Bro. Knight, of Belleville, gave a lecture on Masonry, which was one of the best I ever heard and was very much appreciated.

Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18: By special invitation from the brethren of Picton I visited that lodge on the evening of December 27th, 1898, to assist at the installation of the newly-elected officers. There was a large attendance, and the newly-elected J. W., Bro. Wright gave an excellent lecture on Masonry in the first degree. The prospects are bright for the W. M., Bro. Spafford.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91: I made my official visit to this lodge January 20th, 1899, and installed some of the officers. There was a good attendance, and the W. M., Bro. Bellamy, exemplified the work in a creditable manner in the second degree. This lodge is in a flourishing

condition. The Secretary, Bro. Keyes, has filled his position for twenty-nine years, and during that time has never missed a meeting. The Junior Warden is a particularly efficient officer and does great credit to the lodge.

Franck Lodge, No. 127: I visited this lodge January 23, installed their officers, and there being no work, W. Bro. Rose opened in the three degrees. This was creditably done. The dues of this lodge are well paid up, and it has a good staff of officers. I was accompanied by several brethren from Lake Lodge, who were well pleased with the cordial reception.

Marmora Lodge, No. 222: I visited this lodge January 24th, accompanied by W. Bro. Parliament, W. Bro. Sagar, and Bro. Brickman, of Lake Lodge, and Bro. Bailey, of Stirling. Two were initiated by W. Bro. Proutt, who did the work well. Bro. Hubble is a first-class Secretary, and the affairs of the lodge were in good condition.

Stirling Lodge, No. 69: Accompanied by several brethren from Lake Lodge, I visited Stirling Lodge, February 22nd, 1899. Owing to an accident the W. M. Bro. Boardman, was unable to attend. R. W. Bro. Shaw exemplified the second degree in his usual good style. The lodge is in a prosperous condition.

Craig Lodge, No. 401: My visit to the brethren at Deseronto was a specially pleasant one. W. Bro. O'Flynn, of Belleville; W. Bro. Stafford, of Lake, and W. Bro. Becker, of Brighton, and W. Bro. McLeod, of Brighton, accompanied me. The W. M., Bro. Miller, conferred the second degree in a creditable manner. The Wardens have their work well up. The Secretary, Bro. Roland, had his books and accounts in good shape. My visit was made on the 7th of February, 1899. A large number of brethren were present, and everything indicated that the lodge was in first-class condition.

Star in the East Lodge, No. 164: I visited this lodge February 21st. The first degree and two seconds were exemplified by W. Bro. Fred McDonald, and the third by W. Bro. Cunningham. The officers have their work well in hand, and Bro. Wilson, the Secretary, had his books in good order.

Consecon Lodge, No. 50: I visited this lodge Febv. 24th. The first degree was conferred by the W. M., Bro. Rowe. This lodge is in good working order and

is fortunate in having among its members R. W. Bro. Thornton, who is always enthusiastic and wide awake in Masonic matters. A large number of visiting brethren from Trenton, Picton and Lake Lodges were present. The officers have their work well up.

Eureka Lodge, No. 283: On the 1st of March I visited the Belleville brethren of Eureka Lodge. W. Bro. Brickman, the W. W., could not attend because of serious illness, but W. Bro. O'Flynn, who is always an enthusiastic Mason, presided. He conferred the second degree in an exceedingly creditable manner. This lodge has a very efficient set of officers, and the Secretary's books and accounts are always in a first-class condition. The dues are paid up and the lodge is a progressive one.

Madoc Lodge, No. 48: On March 21st, 1899, accompanied by W. Bro. Lattimer, I visited Madoc Lodge. The attendance was small owing to sickness in that locality. W. Bro. Tumelty conferred the first degree in a pleasing manner. The lodge is in good shape. The Secretary's books are well kept.

Moirs Lodge, No. 11: I visited this lodge officially on March 22nd, 1899. A large number of brethren was in attendance. The work was exemplified in the first degree. There were three candidates, two of whom were initiated by W. Bro. Morden, W. M., and at his request W. Bro. Brickman, the W. M. of Eureka Lodge, who was ill when I visited that lodge, initiated the third. Bro. Nortrup gave the lecture in an impressive manner. This lodge is in good condition.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 126: Owing to the Secretary not receiving any notice my visit to this lodge was quite a surprise. When I entered the lodge was about to confer the second degree. W. Bro. Bedford did the work well and the lodge is in good condition.

Trent Lodge, No. 38: I visited this lodge on the evening of April 18th, 1899. A number of brethren from Belleville chartered a boat and visited the lodge the same evening. There were also a number of visiting brethren from other lodges. The W. M., Bro. Rowe, conferred the first and the third degrees in an able manner, and at the request of the lodge I conferred one third degree as D. D. G. M. The lodge is well equipped, has efficient officers, and the candidates were first-class.

St. John's Lodge, No. 17: I visited this lodge April 22nd, 1899, accompanied by W. Bro. Becker, of Brigh-

ton; W. Bro. Spencer, of Trenton, and saw the work done in the first degree. W. Bro. Hewson is a good worker and is ably assisted by R. W. Bro. Hargraff and W. Bro. Buck. This lodge also has an efficient Secretary in Bro. McNaughton.

Belleville Lodge, No. 123: By special invitation of the W. M., Bro. Johnson, I visited the Belleville Lodge on the evening of May 4th, 1899. The work was exemplified in the first degree by W. Bro. Johnson and W. Bro. A. E. Lewis. The work was well done and the Wardens and their officers were well drilled in the work.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the brethren of Prince Edward District for the honor they conferred on me at the meeting of Grand Lodge, held in the city of Toronto, in electing me to the honorable position of District Deputy Grand Master. I wish to thank particularly my brethren of Lake Lodge for the sympathy and support they gave me throughout the year, and I thank my Masonic brethren throughout the district for the cordial reception with which they all received me. I feel that Masonry has made progress in our district during the past year, and hope that the love and harmony which exists throughout the district may ever continue.

DISPENSATIONS

The following dispensations were issued by me for permission to install officers on another date than provided by law:

Frاند Lodge, No. 127, to install their officers on the evening of Jan. 23rd.

Frank Lodge, No. 127, to elect officers Dec. 23rd, '99.

The following dispensations were issued for the purpose of attending Divine service:

Stirling Lodge, No. 69, to attend service June 25.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91, to attend service, June 25.

Fraternally submitted,

H. G. STAFFORD, D. D. G. M.,

Prince Edward District, No. 13.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Prince Edward District, No. 13, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem- bership.		Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Degree's conf'd			Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
			Decrease during year.	E. A.			F. C.	M. M.	Regular.					Emergent	Total.											
11	Moira	Belleville	162	19	4	17	15	17	2	1	3	1	1	1	14	5	19	45	\$20 00	34	\$140 00	June '99	Good.	Go. d.	Yes	\$4000 00
17	St. John's	Cobourg	182	12	11	11	11	11	3	1	0	1	1	1	15	3	18	35	94 25	62	263 85	D. c. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	2500 00
18	Prince Edw	Pictou	77	3	2	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	112	1	113	34	10 00	9	28 10	D. c. 27, '98	Go. d.	Go. d.	Yes	700 00
29	United	Brighton	81	11	10	9	8	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	115	15	25	25	16 70	5	17 00	June 24, '98	Good.	G. o. d.	Yes	625 00
38	Trent	Trenton	85	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	7	7	15	15	20 00	20	195 00	De. 27, '98	Good.	Fair.	Yes	2000 00
48	Madoc	Madoc	38	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	10	11	36 05	11	36 05	Dec. '97	Good.	Fair.	Yes	2000 00
50	Consecon	Consecon	82	9	8	14	6	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	213	3	16	16	80 50	27	150 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	1200 00
69	Stirling	Stirling	137	10	10	10	9	9	1	1	6	1	1	1	212	3	15	21	75 00	25	100 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	1050 00
91	Colborne	Colborne	37	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	113	13	15	40	40 00	3	25 00	July, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	250 00
123	Belleville	Belleville	66	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	2	14	25	7 00	12	25 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fai.	Fair.	Yes	250 00
126	Go'dn Rule	Campbellford	66	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	2	14	25	7 00	12	25 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fai.	Fair.	Yes	250 00
127	Frank	Frankford	66	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	2	14	25	7 00	12	25 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fai.	Fair.	Yes	250 00
161	Percy	Warkworth	60	6	2	6	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	2	14	40	10 00	3	15 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
215	Stru the E	Wellington	60	6	2	6	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	2	14	40	10 00	3	15 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
232	Lake	Ameliasburg	55	6	1	5	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	15	38	30 00	32	16 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
239	Marmora	Marmora	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	10	15	15 00	32	300 00	Dec. 27, '98	Poor.	Poor.	No	1000 00
283	Tweed	Tweed	59	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	20	20	10 00	14	49 25	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	800 00
383	Eureka	Belleville	59	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	20	20	10 00	14	49 25	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	800 00
401	Craig	Deseronto	55	4	1	3	6	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	112	3	15	16	44 00	11	76 90	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	800 00

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Masonry in the Fourteenth Masonic District, and of my official duties during the past Masonic year.

I visited every lodge in the district with the exception of Elysian District, No. 212, which, after reaching Kingston, I was unable to visit on account of the dangerous ice crossing to Garden Island. However, the W. M., with the books of the lodge, the officers and a number of the brethren, met me by appointment at a joint meeting of two of the city lodges, when I was enabled to look into the healthy condition of the lodge, and to see with satisfaction a gain of three per cent in membership, well-kept books and an assurance from the W. M. that Masonry at the Island was as flourishing as circumstances would permit.

By request of the genial W. M. of The Ancient St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Wor. Bro. J. S. Skinner, I had the honor of installing the officers of his lodge, Dec. 27, at high twelve. There was a good attendance, notwithstanding the hour. The high reputation of this lodge, which occupies the foremost position in the district for Masonic zeal, good fellowship and entertainment, was fully confirmed in my acquaintance, the latter particularly so at the banquet, which was held in the evening at "The British," and which was most recherche in every appointment. This lodge has been most unfortunate this year in the loss of five members by death, among those the Junior Warden, Bro. Joseph Fortescue, who was dearly loved and respected by all the brethren. The lodge has done as much new work as in the preceding year, finances well in hand, has a most capable staff of officers, and is generally prosperous.

On January 24th I visited Leeds Lodge, Gananoque, and had the honor of installing the new officers. There being no work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees very acceptably. The retiring W. M., Bro. J. A. Johnstone, is a most zealous Mason and has done much to improve this lodge during his term of office. It has now a good staff of officers. The Junior Warden, Bro. F. J. Skinner, is unconsciously well on the road to the Master's chair. The lodge has made a substantial increase this year in new members and restorations, but must record two deaths. Finances improving, books well and carefully kept, a prosperous outlook, and ought to largely increase its membership from its wide jurisdiction.

Feb. 3rd, 1899: Visited Westport Lodge, 441, and felt very much like being at home, nearly all the members having been drawn from my own lodge, Simpson, No. 157. There was one initiation, the work of which was exemplified in the W. M. Bro. Gorrell's own celebrated perfect form, he being one of the oldest Past Masters of Simpson Lodge. This new lodge has made a slight gain in membership this year; lately had an increase to its finances of about \$100, profits from an excursion, and being composed of enthusiastic and experienced Masons, I hope and look for its continued prosperity.

On March 7th I visited both Cataraqui and Minden Lodges, Kingston, a joint meeting having been arranged through the kindness of the W. M. of Cataraqui Lodge. It being his regular meeting night, there was, of course, a large attendance. All the officers of each lodge were present, and each set took part alternately in raising and lowering the lodge, the work being done in faultless style. There was a second degree conferred by the W. M. of Cataraqui in good form. I particularly admired the military precision with which the Senior Deacon performed his duties. Cataraqui Lodge has made a large gain in membership this year, but has suffered the loss of four members by death, among whom V. W. Bro. F. Rowland. There is much too large a sum for dues outstanding in this lodge. The finances are, however, much improved from last year, owing to the untiring interest taken by their universally favorite Secretary, R. W. Bro. Robert Hendry, jr., and the prospects of the large are very bright. Minden Lodge is pursuing the even tenor of her ways, reports a gain of

three new members, has well-skilled officers, finances carefully looked after, books well kept, and harmony prevails; one of the solid lodges of the district.

I visited Albion Lodge, No. 109, June 19th. There was a very good attendance, and I had the pleasure of witnessing a second degree given in a splendid manner. The lodge has made a gain of four new members during the year. Finances are first-class. Their very painstaking Secretary, Bro. J. Cooke, informed me that he had occupied that position for thirty-one years. A suitable recognition of so long and faithful services should be accorded.

Lorne Lodge, 404, Tamworth, was visited June 20th. An emergent meeting. No work being on, the lodge was opened and closed in a manner indicating a perfect acquaintance of the officers with their respective duties. I regretted to receive information of the indifference of several members living near in attending lodge. If the craft had to depend upon those members who are only Masons when there is a funeral, the magnificent progress she is now making could not be recorded. The very efficient Secretary, Wor. Bro. Jas. Aylesworth, keeps the lodge finances and records in perfect order, and dues well collected.

June 21st: I visited Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 146, Newburgh, and found in their Wor. Master, Bro. Robert Guy, and his officers very enthusiastic and well-informed Masons. There was no degree work to be done that evening. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and a most enjoyable evening was spent in discussing lodge and craft matters. R. W. Bro. G. A. Aylsworth, P. D. D. G. M., who is Secretary of the lodge, informed me that the lodge has been called upon to expend for relief in very deserving cases a considerable sum, to which it cheerfully responded; in fact, I see from the reports, fifty per cent more than any other lodge in the district, each of which, I trust, Grand Lodge will, as usual, supplement.

Next evening, June 22nd, I found myself welcomed and loyally received by the brethren of Victoria Lodge, No. 299, Centerville, than whom are no warmer-hearted Masons in the district. Their members are widely scattered, but attend lodge pretty well. This lodge is in good circumstances and owns its lodge building, but as the room is on the ground floor I suggested the advisa-

bility of raising the building or exchanging for another. No degree work to be done, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a fair manner.

One of the best meetings I attended was at Union Lodge, No. 9, Napanee, June 23rd. A large number were present, including several from Newburgh. Wor. Bro. W. S. Herrington, the W. M., conferred the third degree in a most impressive manner, and the whole work of the lodge that evening was as good as I have witnessed in the district. R. W. Bro. S. C. Warner, P. D. D. G. M., who had recently returned from Colorado, gave a very interesting description of the work of the craft in that State. I was glad to learn that through the splendid efforts of Wor. Bro. Herrington, the recent long list of very much in arrears members of this lodge is being greatly reduced. Every lodge should require its finance committee to see that each brother's account for dues is balanced in some way once a year. The lodge is doing well, with a bright outlook for the future.

On June 24th, I visited officially my mother lodge, Simpson, No. 157, and had the pleasure of installing the officers for the ensuing year. This lodge is doing its share of good Masonic work, and as well as any in the whole jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. After having suffered the loss of sixteen members by resignation in the formation of Westport Lodge, only five miles distant, the membership now stands at 52, having now but two and a half miles of territory on one side and five miles on the other, no very large increase in membership may be expected. The lodge finances are in a good condition and harmony prevails.

On June 26th, I visited Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 228, Odessa. There was a fair attendance. No degree work, but the officers acquitted themselves very well in the work of opening and closing the lodge. Finances of the lodge good. No calls for relief the past year. Harmony evidently prevails, and the membership of this lodge ought to increase.

I had the pleasure of visiting Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath, June 27th. Attendance good. This old lodge has a smaller membership than one would think it should have, but after considering its location and limited territory, it is doing very well. The work of opening and closing the lodge was very well done, indeed. The W. M., Bro. J. Morgan and his assistant officers

are well acquainted with the duties and work of their offices. Finances very good, and no more enthusiastic Masons to be found than in this old lodge.

I found in many of the lodges the absence of the statistics book, which should be immediately supplied.

Three dispensations have been issued for the purpose of attending Divine service.

I have endeavored to impress upon each lodge the great importance of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master's efforts towards restoration and affiliation of Masons who are out, and each one assured me of active co-operation. I trust that good results will appear there next year.

I desire to return my thanks to my brethren of Frontenac District for having conferred upon me the high honor of election to the office of D. D. G. M. of this prominent Masonic District, and I have endeavored to show my appreciation of the same and the opportunity afforded for advancement in Masonic knowledge by devoting my best energies to my duties. I would assure my brethren that their many kindnesses extended to me during my term of office will long be held in pleasant remembrances.

Fraternally submitted,

L. S. LEWIS, D. D. G. M.,

Frontenac District, No. 14.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Frontenac District, No. 14, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	Degree's conf'r'd			Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions N. P. D.	Deaths.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
						E. A.	F. C.	M. M.					Regular.	Emergent.	Total.										
3	The A. S. L. J.	Kingston	138	6	4	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	5	11	3	14	25	\$55 00	9	\$ 61 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	of 1700	
9	Union	Napawee	77	6	9	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	10	1	11	19	25 00	11	247 00	Dec. 27, '98	Bright	Yes	700 00	
92	Cataraqui	Kingston	123	12	9	10	5	2	1	1	1	1	4	12	6	18	30	50 00	13	273 00	Dec. 27, '98	Bright	Yes	600 00	
109	Albion	Harrowsmith	55	4	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	12 00	6	73 00	Dec. 27, '98	First-rate	Yes	200 00	
119	Maple Leaf	Bath	28	1	2	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	12 00	7	34 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	600 00	
146	Pr. of Wales	Newbu g	46	4	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	2	14	1	14	10	75 00	7	21 00	June 24, '99	Solvent	Yes	400 00	
157	Simpson	Newboro	52	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	35 00	13	72 00	June 24, '99	Good	Yes	400 00	
201	Leeds	Gananoque	90	8	5	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	12	3	15	26	35 00	10	35 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	400 00	
212	Elysian	Garden Island	31	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	10	12	6	18 00	6	18 00	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	Nil.
228	Pr. Arthur	Odessa	32	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10 00	11	22 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Nil.	
253	Minden	Kingston	71	1	1	3	4	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	13	25	10 00	13	67 00	June 24, '99	Good	Yes	of 1700	
299	Victoria	Centreville	35	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	6	10	13	25	50 00	15	50 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	500 00	
404	Lorne	Tainworth	35	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10 00	6	53 00	June 24, '99	Fair.	Yes	150 00		
441	Westport...	Westport	23	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	24 12	14	61 00	June 24, '99	Fair.	Yes	Nil.		

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 15.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit herewith my report on the condition of Masonry in the St. Lawrence District, No. 15.

Having witnessed the exemplification of the work in the various degrees, and closely investigated the interior economy of the different lodges under my jurisdiction, it gives me pleasure to be able to state that Masonry is progressing very favorably in this district.

As will be observed from detail report annexed, some of the lodges have fallen into rather lax methods of conducting their work. This, however, I am satisfied, will be remedied, and better results obtained in the future.

It is not my intention to enlarge upon the many magnificent receptions accorded me by the majority of the lodges which it has been my good fortune to visit, suffice it to say that I feel under deep obligations to the members of the fraternity in this district for the many courtesies and acts of kindness which have been showered upon me both as an individual when visiting their towns, and in my official capacity in their lodges.

I find that the interest taken in Masonry throughout the district is of a nature both deep and general, and the beneficial results which are bound to accrue from such condition will be widespread and gratifying.

In the course of my visits I have impressed upon the brethren the necessity for more frequent visits amongst the sister lodges, as, by this means, the teachings of the order will be promulgated to better advantage.

In regard to the suspension of members for non-payment of dues: In the course of my visits I have found that it is the practice in a number of lodges to allow too long a time to elapse before taking action in the case of brethren who have fallen into arrears, and I am of opin-

ion that if the constitution were more rigidly enforced in this respect in cases where there is evidence of wilful neglect, the outstanding balances due to this cause would be considerably reduced. Those Masons who are able to pay, but will not, should not be allowed to remain on the books of the lodge for more than sixteen months. In the case of those who are unable through stress of circumstances to meet their dues, however, then, that characteristic which is so eminently Masonic should be exercised to its fullest extent.

It will be observed from the statement of work done in the district during the past year that eight members have been reinstated. This I attribute in a large measure to the appeal made by the Grand Master for efforts to be put forth to induce demitted and suspended members to return to the fold, and the result, so far as my district is concerned, must be most gratifying.

Sussex, No. 5, and Salem, No. 368, Brockville: As was mentioned by my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Stayner, in his report for last year, efforts were being made to induce Sussex No. 5 and Salem No. 368, lodges of Brockville, to utilize the same lodge room for their meetings. I am happy to be able to report that this arrangement has now been consummated, and, at my earnest solicitation, my official visit on Tuesday, May 16th, was made the occasion for a joint meeting of these lodges, and the event was one which will be long remembered by the brethren present. In addition to a very large turnout of the local lodges, there were present representatives from fifteen different lodges, including delegations from Alexandria Bay, N.Y., and Ogdensburg, N. Y., the contingent from the former place numbering twenty-four, who were accompanied by their genial Worshipful Master Hume. In all there were about 200 Masons present. The third degree was exemplified by the officers of Sussex Lodge, while the openings and closings were performed by the officers of Salem Lodge, and I may say that the work of both lodges left nothing to be desired. I might mention particularly the smooth, neat manner in which the floor work was performed. At the close of our labors adjournment was made to the spacious banqueting hall, where these present were regaled with brilliant speeches from many of the prominent Masons, members of the lodges, and visitors, as well as more substantial matter in the shape of

edibles. The sentiments voiced by the visiting brethren from the neighboring Republic expressive of the good feeling existing between the two countries were particularly gratifying.

True Britons' Lodge, No. 14, Perth: I visited this lodge May 25th, 1899. There was a good attendance of members. The third degree was exemplified, and I may say, second to none in the district, especially the work of Wor. Bro. Geo. McMartin, W. M., to whom I am also indebted for many kindnesses. All books are well and neatly kept by the Secretary.

St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, Smith's Falls: This lodge was visited by me May 26th, 1899, there being a large attendance of the members of the lodge and of visitors from Merrickville. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a candidate initiated. The work was done in a manner worthy of "Old. St. Francis." I had the pleasure of hearing the Masonic music in connection with the initiation rendered for the first time in my district, and I must say it added greatly to the beautiful rendering of our work. The books of the lodge are kept as I expected they would be, A1, by R. Wor. Bro. Houston, Secretary. My visit to St. Francis will always be remembered by me with pleasant recollections.

Mount Zion Lodge, No. 28, Kemptville: I arranged to visit this lodge May 24th, 1899, regular meeting, but owing to a celebration being held in Kemptville on that date, a quorum could not be had. I examined the books of the lodge, however, and found them in excellent shape, being kept by Wor. Bro. Bottom. Rt. Wor. Bro. Bascom, P. D. D. G. M., informed me that the officers do their work well.

Merrickville Lodge, No. 55, Merrickville: I visited this lodge on May 23rd, 1899. There was a good attendance, including a large contingent from Smith's Falls, amongst whom were Rt. Wor. Bro. J. A. Houston and Wor. Bro. Craig. A second degree was to have been conferred, but the candidate did not turn up, so the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The W. M. has his work in good shape, but has not the support he should have. The books are well kept and the lodge prospering.

St. James' Lodge, No. 74, Bethel (Nr. Brockville): I visited this lodge on May 22nd, 1899, and had a good meeting, visitors from Brockville, North Augusta and

Prescott being present. The officers are well up in their work, especially the W. M., who cannot be beat. The books are well kept. Financially the lodge is in splendid shape, owing but a small sum for their new lodge room.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 85, Athens: Visited this lodge June 1st, 1899. There was not a large attendance. However, this lodge is getting along very well and the work was fairly well done. As reported by my predecessor, the officers take an interest in their work, but do not receive the encouragement from the members being present they deserve.

Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott: I visited this, my mother lodge, on April 4th, 1899. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a candidate initiated. The work was very well done, but not as well as I have seen the same officers do it. The Secretary's books are perfect, and the lodge owes its present good financial standing to his untiring devotion to its finances.

Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, Cornwall: This lodge was visited by me on February 23rd, 1899. There was a fair attendance. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and a third degree conferred. The work was done in such a manner as to leave no room for criticism. The books are splendidly kept, and the room, furniture, etc., are simply beautiful. This is one of the best lodges in the district.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 142, Morrisburg: I paid my official visit to this lodge on February 24th, 1899. There was an attendance of twenty members. The work done was opening and closing in the three degrees, and initiating a candidate. The W. M. can do his work well, but has poor support. There are two adverse factions in this lodge, and anything but harmony prevails. The new Secretary seems to be taking pains with his books, but what the standing of the lodge is I cannot ascertain.

Friendly Brothers' Lodge, No. 143, Iroquois: I visited this lodge officially on February 21st, 1899. The work done was opening and closing in the three degrees, and exemplifying the first. Work fairly well done. I had expected to see it better. The books are well kept and the lodge doing well.

Lancaster Lodge, No. 207, Lancaster: I paid my official visit to this lodge April 10th, 1899. There were thirty-five members present. The lodge was opened and

closed in the three degrees in a very fair manner. The lodge room is neatly furnished. Secretary's books well kept. Financial standing good. I bespeak for this lodge a bright future.

Macoy Lodge, No. 242, Mallorytown: I paid my official visit to this lodge April 17th, 1899. Had a small meeting, only ten members being present. The W. M. was absent owing to illness. I took the chair, opened and closed in the three degrees, and drilled the officers thoroughly in the work, for which I received their very warm thanks, and I hope my visit will have put new life into them, as they have the material to make good officers. The books, what there were of them, were very well kept. I recommended the purchase of necessary books.

Farran's Point Lodge, No. 256, Farran's Point: I paid my official visit to this lodge February 22nd, 1899. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the first degree conferred upon a candidate, which added one more to this thriving little lodge. The work of the officers was well done and needed but little adverse comment. The books are well and neatly kept, and the lodge room, which they own, is neatly furnished. Most of the members of this lodge have to drive from two to ten miles. Attendance twenty-two members and two visitors.

Chesterville Lodge, No. 320, Chesterville: This lodge was visited by me on April 13th, 1899. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a second degree conferred upon a candidate. The work was all that could be desired, the W. M. doing his work beautifully. The old Secretary, V. Wor. Bro. Gillespie, has his books, as usual, in first-class shape. This lodge is prospering rapidly and I think its future prosperity is assured.

Harmony Lodge, No. 370, Delta: I visited this lodge officially on April 21st, 1899, there being a good attendance. I found a beautifully furnished room, but not as suitably laid out as I would have preferred. The work put on was of an exceptionally high order, the senior and junior Wardens being very good, but I afterwards learned that they were not the regular officers, but Past Masters. I received no explanation. The books are well kept and the lodge in good financial standing.

Henderson Lodge, No. 383, Winchester: I paid my

official visit to this lodge April 7th, 1899. About twenty members were present. There being no degree work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees during which I instructed when necessary. The lodge room is poorly furnished and not fit for a Masonic lodge room. They, however, informed me that they were waiting for a new room to be built which they expected to get. The books are well kept and the standing of the lodge good.

Lansdowne Lodge, No. 387, Lansdowne: I visited this lodge officially on April 18th, 1899. This is the weakest lodge in the district, having only seventeen members, ten of whom were present, there being no work. I instructed them in the openings and closings, also in the more essential parts of the degree work. Although small they are very enthusiastic, and I trust that in the near future their labors may be crowned with the success which they deserve. The W. M. is fairly well up in his work. The books are fair. The lodge room is neat.

Crystal Fountain Lodge, No. 389, North Augusta: I visited this lodge officially on March 22nd, 1899. There was a good attendance of members and visitors present. The work in the openings and closings, and also degree work, was well done, the W. M. as usual being master of his work. The Secretary's books are fairly well kept. Lodge room neat and lodge prospering.

Lyn Lodge, No. 416, Lyn: This lodge was visited by me officially April 26th. There was a fair attendance of members and a large number of visitors from Brockville. The work was not up to the standard, but may have been caused through nervousness. The books are well kept. Large room, neat, and finances good.

Maxville Lodge, No. 418, Maxville: I paid my official visit to this lodge on April 11th, 1899, and was met at the station by the W. M. and Very Wor. Bro. Henry and others, to whom I am deeply indebted for kindnesses shown during my short stay. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and one degree conferred. The W. M. is well up in his work, but the officers need more practice. The books are well kept and prospects of lodge bright. I had intended not to mention any of the many banquets tendered me during my visits, but owing to the members' wives and daughters being present at this one I will say that a more pleasant time could not well be had.

Alexandria Lodge, No. 439, Alexandria: This lodge was visited by me officially on April 12th, 1899. Had a good meeting, about thirty present, including seven visitors from Maxville. Very Wor. Bro. Henry kindly accompanying me. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees and a second degree conferred. The work was well done and great credit is due the W. M. for having got this young lodge into such good working order. The books of the lodge are well kept, and its future is bright.

LAYING CORNER STONE.

At the request of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I laid the corner stone of the Presbyterian Church at Maxville on the 14th day of June, 1899. The brethren turned out in good numbers, as also did a large number of visitors from surrounding places, and assisted me as Masons only could. The historic trowel was, I am happy to say, on this occasion, replaced by a gold-headed cane, presented by the congregation of the Presbyterian Church.

DEATHS.

Death has been at work during the year, thinning our ranks, and many have been summoned to that sublunary abode, where the Great Architect lives and reigns for ever and ever. May they rest from their labors.

DISPENSATIONS.

I granted one dispensation for the purpose of attending Divine service to Crystal Fountain Lodge, No. 389, North Augusta.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

GEORGE ROOK, D. D. G. M.,
St. Lawrence District, No. 15.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in St. Lawrence District, No 15, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.		Total No. of all Mem.		Increase during year.		Decrease during year.		M. M.		E. A.		F. C.		Affiliations.		Restorations.		Resignations.		Suspensions, N. P. D.		Deceased.		Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.		Amount paid for relief.		No. of members 12 months in arrears.		Total or all Arrearages.		Date of last G. L. Return.		Financial Standing.		Prospects of Lodge.		Can W. M. work all degrees.		Insurance.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
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OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Masonry in the Sixteenth Masonic District during the past year, and whilst doing so I desire to extend my thanks to the brethren of the Sixteenth District for their expression of confidence in me in unanimously electing me to the high office of D. D. G. M.

I have paid an official visit to all the lodges in this district with the exception of Mattawa Lodge, and find them in a very satisfactory condition. The work was well done in most cases.

This district will compare favorably with any under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. I have had a very pleasant year, their being that peace and harmony which should always rule in a Masonic lodge. I had the pleasure of appointing Wor. Bro. Lockburn B. Scott as District Secretary, and have to thank him for the able assistance he has given me in my work. I issued a circular letter in accordance with the views expressed by the M. W. the Grand Master in his address to Grand Lodge to all the lodges in this district, impressing with the necessity of taking some steps to bring back to the fold worthy members who had been suspended or demitted from their lodges. I am sorry to report that the matter has not met with that success which I had hoped it would have been. It will only be by untiring efforts that any success will be gained.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.

Prince of Wales, No. 371. Doric, No. 58. Fidelity, No. 231.

DISPENSATIONS

The following dispensations were granted through me by the M. W. the Grand Master: Builders' Lodge, No.

177, Ottawa, to hold an at-home October 20th, 1898; also Fidelity, No. 231, Ottawa, to hold an at-home on March 2nd, 1899, both in Masonic regalia; Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186; Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, election of officers; Mississippi Lodge, No. 147; Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, and Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, to install officers; Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, election and installation. Also dispensations were granted to the following lodges to attend Divine service clothed in Masonic clothing; Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, July 31st, 1898 (and to decorate the graves of deceased brethren); also on June 25th, 1899; Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Aug. 14th, 1898; St. John's, 21A, on September 18th, 1898; Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, July 2nd, 1899; Pembroke Lodge, No. 128; Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186; Bonnechere, No. 433, for Sunday, June 25th.

INSTALLATIONS.

I had the pleasure of installing officers of the following lodges: Prince of Wales, No. 371, and Chaudiere, No. 264. I was assisted in the installation by R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, Ottawa, on Dec. 27th, 1898; Lodge of Fidelity, No. 231, on 20th June; and I assisted R. W. Bro. Parlow in the installation of the officers of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 52, on 24th June, 1899.

DEATHS.

During the past year there has been an exceptional number of deaths in this district. There have been removed from our midst many old and zealous members of the craft whose removal will be very much felt in their several lodges. Mississippi Lodge mourns the death of Wor. Bro. J. M. Munro, who was a Past Master and a constant attendant at his lodge, and ever ready to do a share of the work. Bro. Duncan McIntosh was removed by having been killed while serving in the U. S. Army at Santiago, Cuba. St. John's, No. 63, mourns the death of Bro. John McArton, Bro. W. W. Cherry, Ashton, and Bro. George A. Wilson, of Carleton Place. Plantagenet Lodge laments the death of Bro. Frank Kains, their S. W. He was a very promising member of this lodge, and his death was a great loss. He was a constant attendant at his lodge, although he had to drive seven miles to attend the same.

Madawaska Lodge has had removed from their midst

Bro. G. A. Graser, of Kinburn. Doric Lodge has lost Wor. Bro. J. Smeaton; also Bro. Holmes Cowan, who met his death by an accident while attending the funeral of a friend. Pembroke Lodge, the departure of Bro. Thos. Mansells. Chaudiere Lodge has lost two brethren—Wor. Bro. W. H. Timbers and Bro. W. P. Kingsland. Civil Service Lodge, No. 177, also lost one of its members, Bro. A. N. McNeil.

I began my official visits by attending Doric Lodge, No. 58, on September 2nd, 1898. The lodge was opened by Wor. Bro. W. J. Kidd, W. M., in the east. The W. M. opened the lodge in the first, second and third degrees. The work of the evening was the third degree, which was conferred by Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke, in his usual excellent manner. The officers were all well up in their several parts. The outlook for this lodge is very bright. The Past Masters attend very regular and take a part of the work when asked. The Secretary is a most efficient one and his books are neatly and carefully kept. I paid a second visit to Doric, No. 58, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Stephens, P. D. D. G. M., and V. W. Bro. Clarke, of Hamilton. The work of the evening was second and third degrees. The second degree was conferred by the W. M. and the third degree by Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke. The degrees were put on in excellent style and reflected credit on the two Wor. brethren. This lodge has always been a good working lodge in the past and it will maintain its good record in the future.

Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186: Visited on September 26th, 1898. The first degree was conferred in an excellent manner by Wor. Bro. F. L. Switzer, W. M., and he was ably assisted by his officers, who were all well up in their work. I was very much struck with the work and never have seen a degree better put on than was done on this occasion. The surroundings and lodge room are not in keeping with the work. I hope in the near future to see the lodge housed in better quarters. I was accompanied on my visit by R. W. Bro. D. Taylor, P. D. D. M. I was invited by Wor. Bro. F. L. Switzer, W. M., to pay them a second visit, he having the impression that my visit was not a favorable one. I was accompanied on this occasion by R. W. Bro. D. Taylor, P. D. D. K. M., V. W. Bro. W. Borthwick, and Bro. E. L. Horwood. The work of the evening was one second and two third degrees. The second was conferred by Wor.

Bro. Wm. Franklin and V. W. Bro. J. Smith, the first, third and Wor. Bro. F. L. Switzer, W. M., the second third, the work being equally as well rendered as on my former visit. There was a large attendance and most of the brethren had driven from six to ten miles. If this lodge are few in numbers they are extra good workers and enthusiastic members of the craft. After the lodge was closed down we were entertained to a supper at the hotel, where we spent an enjoyable time in speeches and songs.

Vankleek Hill, St. John, A21: I visited this lodge on 27th September, 1898, and was also accompanied by R. W. Bro. Taylor. This lodge has moved to a new hall, which is much pleasanter and suitable than their old place of meeting. I have impressed upon the W. M. the necessity of having the hall dedicated, but he and the brethren do not wish to have the same done till it is finally decided if this lodge will remain here or be transferred to Hawkesbury. Most of the brethren and the candidates come from Hawkesbury. I was heartily received by Wor. Bro. A. F. Robertson and his officers. There was a very good attendance of the brethren, although the Secretary had forgotten to notify them of my visit on this date. The first degree was conferred by R. W. Bro. E. Johnston, P. D. D. G. M. The lodge was passed and raised, and Wor. Bro. A. F. Robertson conferred the third in a very creditable manner, this being his first work in this degree. I pointed out some slight defects in the working of the lodge which should be remedied. The above was well received. The material taken in here is of excellent character.

Builders' Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa: On the 19th of October Builders' Lodge held an at home for its members and friends, and by special invitation the D. D. G. M. was present. This was one of the most pleasant Masonic gatherings that has taken place, as the invitations not only included the members, but the ladies. We do not often allow our wives to see lodge rooms and get a proper idea of what our meeting place is. About 200 sat down to the banquet table. After the toast list had been gone through with we adjourned to the blue room, where music and song were entered into for a space of time. During the program the lodge directed Wor. Bro. Sinclair to perform a pleasant duty by clothing R. W. Bro. F. Cook with the regalia of Past Grand Junior

Warden, the presentation being accompanied by an address. On 11th November, 1898, I had the pleasure of paying my official visit to this lodge. Wor. Bro. S. B. Sinclair in the chair. Wor. Bro. Sinclair conferred the first and second degrees upon the candidates. The work was most admirably done and reflected great credit on the W. M. and his officers. This lodge is one of the best in the district. They have a good number of Past Masters, who are always ready and willing to do their part to keep the lodge up to the standard. Wor. Bro. Sinclair retires from the chair, which is to be very much regretted, but his successor is one who promises to be able to take up the work and maintain the standard which it has attained.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa: Visited at regular meeting October 28th. I was accompanied by R. W. Bros. Taylor and Stephens, P. D. D. G. M. S.'s, V. W. Bro. Borthwick; also Wor. Bros. Luke Wilson, Devitt, Salmon, Sinclair and Fair. The work of the evening was the first degree, which was done by Wor. Bro. J. J. Mulligan, ably assisted by his officers, who were all well up in their several parts. Bro. J. W. Wilson gave the E. A. degree lecture on the tracing board, and it could not have been more perfectly rendered than it was on this occasion. The Secretary's books were examined and found well kept. The finances of this lodge are good, but would be much better if the dues were more promptly paid. There is a special effort being made to have the amount collected.

Pembroke Lodge, No. 128, Pembroke: I visited this lodge on Nov. 3rd, 1898, and was most cordially received by Wor. Bro. Dr. Bayne, W. M. A very large number of the brethren were present, including M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Past Grand Master, and a member of this lodge, my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Dr. Joseph and R. W. Bro. J. H. Buritt, P. D. D. G. M. The W. M. and his officers ably worked the first and second degrees, and would have given the third if time had permitted. This lodge is one of the most prosperous lodges in this district. It shows the good work done by the Past Masters, who have all done their share in bringing it to such a high standard. After the degree work we adjourned to the banquet hall, where an elaborate supper was served, accompanied by speeches and songs.

Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte: On Novem-

ber 4th I paid my official visit to this lodge, receiving a very hearty welcome from the large number of brethren who were present, including Past Masters Wm. R. Pollock and J. M. Munro. This lodge is well officered and they are well up in the work, ably assisting the W. M. in conferring the third degree. The future of this lodge is of the brightest. The material they are adding is of the very best, as they strive to get quality, not quantity. Since my visit this lodge has sustained a great loss in the death of Wor. Bro. Munro. He was a true Mason and a good man, who tried to do his duty faithfully and well.

Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew: On the 7th of November I visited this lodge officially and was received with the greatest cordiality by Wor. Bro. T. Brownlee, W. M., and the brethren, among whom were R. W. Bro. D. Barr, P. D. D. G. M., Wor. Bros. Dr. Campbell, W. Mackay, John Mackay, Dr. Cleary and James Craig. Their being no work, the W. M. passed and raised the lodge and exemplified the third degree on one of the brethren present, the work being most creditably done, and showed the W. M. and his officers were well up in degree work. This lodge is prospering and has a very fertile field to work in. The good work done by the Past Masters shows out to-day. The Secretary's books were examined and found well kept, and the lodge in a good financial condition. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where a repast was partaken of and a most enjoyable time spent.

St. John's, No. 63, Carleton Place, Nov. 9th, 1898: I was accompanied on my official visit by Bro. W. B. McArthur. This being the night of their election, there was a good attendance, Dr. D. H. McIntosh, W. M., in the chair. The result of the election was that Bro. Dr. Gorrell was elected W. M., the election being most harmonious and resulting in a good set of officers being elected to fill the chairs. The summons called for a second and third degree. The candidate for the former did not come forward, so the W. M. raised the lodge to the third and conferred the third degree in a most creditable manner, all the officers being well up in their work. This lodge has a bright future, and if the success that has been accomplished in the past years keeps up it should be a very strong and prosperous lodge. I examined the Secretary and Treasurer's books and found them well kept and the finances very satisfactory.

Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264: On the 5th Dec., 1898, I visited this lodge officially, Wor. Bro. D. McCuaig in the chair. This being the night of the election of officers, the same resulted in Bro. J. Elliott, S. W., being elected Master of the lodge. The other officers elected are good and true Masons, and the work should be done by them this year in an excellent manner. After the election the lodge was passed to the second degree. The work in this degree was done in a creditable manner. The attendance at this and other meetings of this lodge is not as good as it should be. The Past Masters do not attend with that regularity to infuse the younger brethren with the enthusiasm that should be.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 52, Dec. 14th, 1898: This being my mother lodge, I have had many opportunities of seeing the work done, and, judging of its character, it will rank among the first in the city. This lodge is making steady progress and is in excellent standing, both in members and finances. This meeting was called to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the lodge. There was no work to be performed. The members and friends of the lodge were given a rich treat by an address by Sir James Grant on the craft in Ottawa for the past 50 years, after which R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., read an excellent paper on the history of the lodge for the past 50 years. He brought to light many facts that have passed from the minds of many old members. Both of these addresses were very much appreciated by the brethren present. The lodge was called from labor for a space of time and repaired to the banquet hall, where excellent speeches and songs were given. This night will be a red-letter night in the history of old Dalhousie.

Fidelity Lodge, N. 231: On 20th December I visited Fidelity Lodge and spent a most enjoyable evening. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. W. Rea, P. D. D. G. M., V. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonnell, and a number of Past Masters. The attendance was good. Wor. Bro. J. A. Devitt, W. M., and his officers gave me a hearty welcome. The Master conferred the first and second degrees upon candidates and performed the work in a most creditable manner. The officers were well up in their work and will maintain the name this lodge has won for good work. After the lodge was closed down we adjourned to the banquet

hall, where a pleasant time was spent with the brethren. On March 2nd Fidelity Lodge held an at-home for the members and friends, and it was a most pleasant evening, when they were entertained with a good program, after which they adjourned to the banquet hall, where they had light refreshments and became better acquainted. From this meeting there have been a number joined the craft from a favorable impression they received of the order.

Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, Arnprior: On the 13th March, 1899, I paid my official visit to this lodge. I was received by Wor. Bro. Richman, W. M., and his officers and was accorded a most hearty reception. This is the mother lodge of P. D. D. G. M. A. Hood, who is the guardian of the same, and ever maintains that interest and zeal that is his own characteristic. I had the great pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Hood on this occasion. I was accompanied on this visit by V. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonnell, Wor. Bro. Wm. Bowden, Bros. W. McArthur, John Wilson, C. Bethune and R. W. Shannon. The work of the evening was an initiation. The degree was given by Wor. Bro. Richman in a very creditable manner. The lodge is well officered and has a bright future before it. They are not increasing fast, but the material taken in is of the best. Bro. Whyte, J. W., gave the lecture on the tracing board and I was much surprised at the manner in which it was done. Bro. Whyte promises in the future to take a prominent place in this lodge.

Civil Service Lodge, 177, Ottawa: I had the pleasure of paying my official visit to this lodge on March 14th, 1899. I was received by Wor. Bro. L. B. Scott, W. M. The work of the evening was the third degree, but as the candidate did not come forward Wor. Bro. Scott gave an exemplification of the third degree work. The same was exceptionally well done and reflects great credit on Wor. Bro. Scott and his officers, who have grasped the true meaning of the work. The lodge was called from labor for a space of time and adjourned to the banquet hall, where the brethren were entertained to speeches and a musical program. This lodge is one of the most prosperous in the district.

The craft of Ottawa were called together on April 27th by Builders' Lodge, No. 177, to do honor to our M. W. the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone. The

chair of the lodge was ably filled by Wor. Bro. Sinclair, Wor. Bro. Jas. Elliott, Chaudiere Lodge, I. P. M.; Wor. Bro. J. A. Armstrong, Doric Lodge, S. W.; Wor. Bro. Lockburn B. Scott, Civil Service Lodge, J. W.; Wor. Bro. F. Cook and V. Wor. Bro. H. P. Macdonnell, D. of C.; Wor. Bro. H. H. Cairns, Secretary, S. D.; Wor. Bro. J. A. Devitt, Fidelity, J. D.; Wor. Bro. E. J. L. Gallagher, Prince of Wales, I. G.; Wor. Bro. John Robertson, Doric Lodge, the latter taking the place of the Master of Dalhousie Lodge, who was unable to be present.

Among those who gathered to do honor to the Grand Master were M. W. Bro. T. B. Flint, M. P., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; Past Grand Masters W. R. White, John Ross Robertson, of the Grand Lodge of Canada; D. C. Fraser, M. P., of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; John V. Ellis, M. P., of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick; Hon. John Yeo, of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and C. N. Bell, of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba; Sir Mackenzie Bowell, N. F. Davin, M. P., Geo. Landerkin, M. P., A. F. McLaren, M. P., Y. J. McAlister, M. P., John Tolmie, M. P., G. R. Maxwell, M. P., J. G. Rutherford, M. P., John McDougald, Commissioner of Customs, and 300 of the city members.

The lodge was opened in the first degree. After the reception of Grand Officers of other Grand Lodges, the Grand Master was received and ruled the lodge. The reception by Wor. Bro. Sinclair was the neatest and best I ever had the pleasure of hearing.

I had the very great pleasure of presenting the M. W. the Grand Master with an illuminated address on behalf of the craft in Ottawa. The Grand Master gave us a very able address, and we were also favored with addresses by M. W. Bros. J. Ross Robertson and D. C. Fraser. The lodge was chosen in the first degree. We adjourned to the banquet hall at 10 p. m., where I had the pleasure of presiding over one of the finest banquets ever held in this district. Addresses were given by M. W. Bros. E. T. Malone, W. R. White, J. Yeo, M. P., J. V. Ellis, M. P., T. B. Flint, M. P., C. N. Bell and R. W. Bro. Howard, J. McAlister and Wor. Bros. J. G. Rutherford, M. P., Dr. Landerkin, M. P., N. F. Davin, M. P., and Sir Mackenzie Bowell. The following brothers added to the musical parts of the program: Bros.

E. L. Horwood, C. H. Beddoe, C. Bethune, T.A. Brown and C. D. Fripp. Such gatherings cannot have any other effect than cementing the brethren together and renewing the true life of Masonry.

Bonnechere Lodge, N. 433, Eganville, May 8th, 1899: I was accompanied on my official visit to Bonnechere by Wor. Bros. W. McKay and Dr. Cleary, also Bro. R. Timmins, of Renfrew Lodge. I was well received by Wor. Bro. W. B. Beatty and brethren. Wor. Bro. Beatty, W. M., in the east. The work of the evening was two initiations. The Worshipful Master did the first and Wor. Bro. D. Sparling the second. The work was well done. The officers were not as well up with their work as I should have liked to have seen them. I pointed out the defects and showed them how to rectify some of the errors. My remarks were well received. The material taken in is very good and the future promises to be good. After the lodge had closed the W. M. invited the lodge to his residence to partake of a supper and become better acquainted.

Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, Lanark, June 2nd, 1899: I was accompanied on my official visit by Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke. I find this lodge without the guiding hand of a Master, Wor. Bro. Stewart having moved to Ottawa some time ago and has not paid a visit to his lodge since his removal. The lodge has been looked after by Wor. Bro. McFarlane and Wor. Bro. J. McLaren, both good workers. Wor. Bro. McFarlane acted as W. M. and conferred the second degree in a creditable manner. He was ably supported by the Wardens, but the other officers were not up to their work. It was suggested that the next W. M. call practice meetings, and in that way all the officers would become familiar with their several parts. I pointed out several defects, which will be remedied in the future. This lodge has had many difficulties to contend with. It was bad enough to be without a W. M., but the Secretary was away most of the time, and he was not up with his work. If it had not been for Wor. Bro. Field, who did his best to keep the work up, I am afraid this lodge, instead of being a fairly prosperous lodge, would have become extinct. With the election of a good W. M., this lodge has a bright prospect before it. It is financially good. Bro. Caldwell takes a warm interest in Evergreen. After the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned to Bro. Dobbins, where

a sumptuous supper was partaken of and an enjoyable time spent in speeches and songs.

Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond: I visited this lodge officially on June 21st, 1899. I was accompanied by R. Wor. Bro. E. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., V. Wor. Bro. H. P. Macdonell, Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke, Bro R. W. Shannon. I was received by Wor. Bro. A. E. McCortick, W. M., and his officers. The W. M. opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees in a very able manner. There should have been a third degree, but the candidate was not present. The attendance at this meeting was very small. The W. M. and officers are very regular in their attendance, although they live long distances from Richmond. The brethren in the immediate neighborhood do not attend, which is to be regretted. I addressed the lodge and pointed out some of their weak points and showed them how they might get a better attendance and instill into their members greater enthusiasm.

There were excellent addresses given by R. W. Bro. Parlow, V. Wor. Bro. Macdonnell, Wor. Bros. Luke, Dr. Gorrell and Bro. Shannon. I think, in the autumn, when the lodge reassembles, active action will be taken to place the lodge in a better state than they are at present. I examined the Secretary-Treasurer's books and found them well kept, but find that the arrears list is very large. This should not be. This lodge is situated in one of the best agricultural districts and the members are well-to-do. The W. M. and members intend making a personal canvass of all the members and got this list very materially reduced.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

GEORGE S. MAY, D. D. G. M.,

Ottawa District No. 16.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Ottawa District, No. 16, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Mem-ber-ship	Degre's conf'r'd		Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.		Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
						E. A.	F. C.					M. M.	Total.										Regular.	Emergent.
21a	St. John's...	Vankleek Hill...	45	8	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	\$15 00	14	\$ 38 00	June 30, '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	M. H. C.
52	Dalhousie...	Ottawa.....	121	7	0	6	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	24	69 00	38	475 00	June 24, '98	Good.	Bright	Yes	M. H. C.
58	Doric.....	Ottawa.....	96	3	11	3	6	5	0	1	8	0	2	1	12	5 00	14	176 25	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Very g'd	Yes	M. H. C.
63	St. John's.	Carleton Place.....	102	8	3	7	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	25	90 00	10	50 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Very g'd	Yes	\$ 400 00
122	Kenfrew.....	Renfrew.....	100	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	80 00	32	171 25	June 7, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
128	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	136	12	1	11	9	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	25	8 00	23	438 50	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
147	Mississippi.....	Almonte.....	70	2	0	4	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	20	5 00	23	155 00	June 18, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
148	Civil Serv'e.....	Ottawa.....	82	6	0	2	2	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	27	59 25	18	277 50	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	M. H. C.
159	Goodwood.....	Richmond.....	64	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	7 00	59	496 50	June 24, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	680 00
177	The Build's.....	Ottawa.....	128	14	1	10	8	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	35	153 00	35	450 00	Dec. 27, '98	Very g'd	Very g'd	Yes	M. H. C.
186	Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet.....	29	2	0	2	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	15 00	9	25 00	June 24, '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	None.
196	Madwa ka.....	Arnprior.....	83	7	0	7	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	23	180 00	21	228 92	Dec. 27, '98	Very good	Very g'd	Yes	400 00
209	Evergreen.....	Lenark.....	37	4	0	4	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	10 00	35	60 00	Dec. 27, '97	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
231	Fidelity.....	Ottawa.....	96	15	0	12	14	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	36	21 00	21	251 03	June 24, '99	Very good	Very g'd	Yes	100 00
264	Chaudier.....	Ottawa.....	107	6	2	6	5	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	17	34 25	40	380 00	June 24, '99	Fair.	Good.	Yes	.....
371	Pr of Wales.....	Ottawa.....	67	3	9	5	5	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	19	20 00	25	240 65	June 24, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
400	Mattawa.....	Mattawa.....	79	0	2	0	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	7	.....	40	553 46	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	NIL.
433	Bonnechere.....	Eganville.....	35	3	1	3	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	12	.....	7	125 00	Jan. 6, '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	None.

The City Lodge Room, furnishings, etc., are insured for \$3,000.00. * See report of Lodge Board of Relief.

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 17.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor of submitting to you a short report as to the condition of Masonry in Algoma District, No. 17. At an especial communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the town of Rat Portage, on Tuesday, the 30th of August, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.

By request of the M. W. the Grand Master, I, acting as G. M., and a constitutional number of lodges being represented, Grand Lodge was opened in due form at 1.30 o'clock p. m. I announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge was called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new Central Public School.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off and a procession formed under the direction of the W. Bro. W. H. Carpenter, acting as Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building. The Acting Grand Chaplain asked a blessing and the scroll was read. The Acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity of the stone, together with a box containing Canadian coins and certain newspapers and records. A beautiful trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to me by the Chairman of the School Board in behalf of the trustees. The Grand Wardens and Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

After addresses by W. Bro. Weir, of Rat Portage, and others, I, acting as G. M., consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it well made, truly

laid well proved, true and trusty. The procession was then re-formed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form. Afterward we all enjoyed a beautiful sail on the Lake of the Woods, the school board having very kindly invited the members of the craft.

I am very pleased to say that at Pequonga Lodge the best of feeling reigns supreme, and that the officers are well up in their work. The brethren have a good lodge room and well furnished, the arrangements of the lights, I believe, being unsurpassed by any in the district. While there I had the pleasure of meeting a number of the members of Keewatin Lodge, and from the able manner in which they took their part in laying the corner-stone and their work in the lodge room, I am sure Keewatin Lodge has an able staff of officers.

At the request of the M. W. the Grand Master, I had the honor to constitute and consecrate Dyment Lodge, No. 442, Thessalon. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. W. C. Dobie, Shuniah Lodge, No. 287, Port Arthur, and R. W. Bros. J. C. Farwell, W. H. Hurst, Keystone Lodge, No. 12, Sault Ste. Marie. I was much pleased at seeing so many members of this lodge present, also a number of visiting brethren, not only from our own Province, but from the United States. The prospects of this lodge are very bright, the officers are all capable in their work, and most enthusiastic for the welfare of their lodge.

They are possessed of a very good lodge room. The W. M., Bro. W. L. Nichols, has the full confidence of the officers and members of the lodge. He is a well-skilled Mason and most careful Master. R. W. Bros. Dobie, Farnell and Hurst kindly installed the W. M., and assisted the officers. After finishing the business of the evening we adjourned to a large hall, where we partook of an elaborate supper, which had very kindly been prepared for us by the wives and sweethearts of the brethren. An hour or two were spent most enjoyably in songs and speeches before the termination of a very pleasant visit.

Fort William, my mother lodge, was next visited by me officially. There was a good attendance of members, and a very pleasing and profitable time was spent. The W. M., Bro. C. H. Jackson, who is the youngest W. M. in the district, and one of the most capable, is

well skilled in conferring all degrees. He has associated with him as Wardens and junior officers brethren who are enthusiastic and who take a great interest in their work. W. Bro. Perry, Immediate Past Master, deserves great credit for bringing the lodge to its present flourishing condition, and under the capable management of its present Master and officers, it bids fair to become the banner lodge of this district. I regret to say that the amount of dues in arrears is too large, but every effort is being made to reduce them. I can assure you it would have been a pleasure for me, in making my report, if I could say that I had induced the brethren to reinstate all members free of charge who now stand suspended for N. P. of D.

I next visited Shuniah Lodge, No. 287, Port Arthur. Here I was pleased at seeing so many members present and a number of visiting brethren from Fort William Lodge, W. M. Bro. W. J. Clarke being in the east, there were no degrees exemplified. I did not need this to show me that the W. M. could perform his duties in a most creditable manner, as I am well acquainted with the lodge. I congratulate it on having such an efficient and enthusiastic Secretary as W. Bro. Morgan, whose books are admirably kept. I am very sorry that I have been unable to pay Granite Lodge, Fort Frances, Lake of the Woods, Rat Portage and Keystone, 412, Sault Ste. Marie, official visits. I had intended visiting them, but circumstances over which I had no control prevented me doing so. However, after having met and conversed with the members and officers of Lake of the Woods and Keystone Lodges, I can safely say that they are efficient workers and quite capable of conferring all degrees. I am satisfied that the lodges are in good condition. In conversation with R. W. Bro. Ferguson, of Rat Portage, and others who have visited Granite U. D., Fort Frances, I learn that the W. M. and officers are well up in their work and well skilled in conferring all degrees. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition, and I feel satisfied at its assured success.

In conclusion, I thank the brethren of the district for electing me to the high and honorable position of D. D. G. M., and for the kindly and hospitable manner in which I have been received everywhere. I have also to express my sincere appreciation of the kindness and assistance which I received from R. W. Bros. W. C. Dobie,

Shuniah Lodge, and C. J. Farwell, W. H. Hurst, Keystone Lodge.

My brethren, my work has been done imperfectly and falling far short of my ideal, and any omissions on my part I know you will cover with the mantle of Masonic charity.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

ALLAN McDOUGALL,
D. D. G. M. Algoma District, No. 17.

NIPISSING DISTRICT, No. 18.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit to you a brief report on the condition of Masonry in Nipissing District, No. 18.

My first official act was to appoint Bro. F. P. Warne, of Muskoka Lodge, No. 360, District Secretary, and I take this opportunity of thanking Bro. Warne for his kindness in accompanying me on nearly all my official visits, at great expense to himself.

The brethren of the district having done me the honor of electing me D. D. G. M. of the Eighteenth Masonic District at the annual communication, held in the city of Toronto, 1898, I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for the trust reposed in me, and also for the very kind and cordial manner in which I was received by the various lodges in the district.

I visited all the lodges in the district, some of them twice, and am pleased to be able to state that Masonry is in a flourishing condition in this portion of the grand jurisdiction with very few exceptions.

443: On the fourteenth of November, 1898, I visited Powassan Lodge for the purpose of constituting and dedicating the lodge and installing the officers. I was assisted in the work by Wor. Bro. Barber of Algonquin Lodge, 434, Worshipful Bros. Way, Liddle and Huntington, of Nipissing.

Lodge 420: I am pleased to be able to state that this new lodge is doing well, I met the Worshipful Master several times since I visited the lodge, and he informs me that the lodge is progressing.

360: I visited Muskoka Lodge on 27th December, and had the honor of installing my son Worshipful Master of this, my mother lodge. I was assisted by R. Wor. Bro. Huber, V. W. Bro. Whitten and Wor. Bro. Hallett, of Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie. I also attended a very

successful at-home given by this lodge on 29th December, at which were present R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, R. W. Bro. Huber, V. W. Bro. Whitten, W. Bros. Hallett, Bridgeland, Mahaffy, and a number of brethren. This lodge is not progressing as I would like to see it, but the lodge is sound, and when any work is done it is done well. Owing to a defective roof, this lodge was unable to hold meetings for four months, which accounts for the small number of meetings held.

409: I visited Golden Rule Lodge on the 16th of January and installed the Worshipful Master and what officers were present. I am sorry to have to report that this lodge is the only lodge in the district that is not getting along as it should. However, the Worshipful Master is doing his best to get the lodge in better shape. I visited this lodge again on the 19th June, 1899, when the third degree was exemplified on a candidate at the request of another lodge. The work was done fairly well by R. W. Bro. Mowrey, at which I assisted. There was another brother for the third degree, but as he was not well up in the work of the previous degree, I thought it better to let him wait till he was better prepared.

427: I visited Nickel Lodge on the 8th of February. The Worshipful Master was absent through illness. W. Bro. Gordon presided. The third degree was exemplified by W. Bros. Gordon and Read and fairly well done. This is the only instance in which I asked lodge to call an emergent meeting. I was met at the station by R. W. Bro. Howey, W. Bros. Gordon and Read, and a number of brethren, who received me in a very cordial manner. This lodge is in a very flourishing condition, they having, I think, the finest lodge room in the district, and are doing good work.

420: I visited Nipissing Lodge on 9th February, W. Bro. Young, the W. M., in the east. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. A candidate was present for the second degree, but owing to the extreme cold (36 degrees below zero) and the brother just recovered from an attack of la grippe, it was thought advisable not to work the degree. W. Bro. Young opened and closed the lodge in the several degrees in a very creditable manner.

434: I visited Algonquin Lodge on the 28th of February, when the second degree was worked in a very creditable manner by W. Bro. McDonald, the W. M. I

also visited this lodge on 25th April, at an emergent meeting, to attend the funeral of the Chaplain of the lodge, Rev. Bro. Chowne. At the request of the Worshipful Master, I conducted the funeral service at the grave. There was a very good attendance of the brethren from Muskoka Lodge, Unity Lodge, Powassan Lodge, Granite Lodge, Strong, etc. This is a progressive lodge and is doing good work.

423: I visited Strong Lodge on 15th March, W. Bro. Dunn, the W. M., in the east. As I was very late in arriving owing to the train being late, the third degree was worked by the W. M. before my arrival, but the first degree was worked after my arrival by W. Bro. Wicket, but the work was not as well done as I would like to see it.

376: I visited Unity Lodge on 8th March, W. Bro. Cullen, the W. M., in the east. The work of the first degree was fairly well done by the W. M. and his officers. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees in a very creditable manner.

352: I visited this lodge on the 19th April. The third degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Pirie, assisted by R. W. Bro. Knifton and V. W. Bro. Foote, and am pleased to say that I never saw the work done better. W. Bro. Pirie is an excellent workman. The brethren of Granite Lodge received me in a most courteous manner. I will always remember with pleasure my visit to Granite Lodge.

I issued the following dispensations during the year:

On the 18th December, to Algonquin Lodge, 424, to attend Divine service.

To Powassan, 443, on 25th June, to attend Divine service.

To Nipissing, 420, to attend Divine service on 25th June.

To Strong, 423, to attend Divine service, on July 2nd.

DEATHS.

The following deaths occurred in this district during the year:

Alfred W. H. Chowne, of Algonquin, 434, died 20th April, 1899.

Robert David Fair, of Algonquin, 434, died 20th of April, 1899.

E. R. Reed, of Unity, 376, died May 6th, 1899.

Granite Lodge reports a death, but I have been unable to obtain name or date of death.

In conclusion, I have to thank Right Worshipful Bro. Huber and the brethren generally for their kind assistance, and for the very courteous manner in which I was received in the several lodges.

Fraternally submitted,

RICHARD MILLS, D. D. G. M.,

Nipissing District, No. 18.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON WARRANTS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board of General Purposes, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the Committee on Warrants, beg to recommend that warrants be issued to Lake of the Woods Lodge, Rat Portage, and Granite Lodge, Fort Frances, both in Algoma District, No. 17. These lodges have been working under dispensation granted at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, and an inspection of the minuta books proves that satisfactory progress has been made. The requirements of the Constitution have been fully complied with.

Fraternally submitted,

L. SECORD,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Warrants.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. L. Secord, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board of Warrants be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON AUDIT AND FINANCE.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The board through the Committee on Audit and Finance have audited the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and certify to their correctness.

All monies received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer and their receipt acknowledged by that officer; vouchers have been produced for all payments made by the Grand Treasurer as authorized by Grand Lodge.

The report of the Grand Secretary gives a full statement of receipts from all sources as well as other business transacted in the office.

The total receipts have been.....\$21,040 92

The total expenditures have been..... 18,793 32

Receipts over expenditures.....\$ 2,247 60

The receipts last year were \$19,798.82, making an increase for this year of \$1,242.10.

The expenditures last year were \$18,338.29, making an increase for this year of \$455.03, which is accounted for by the fact that M. W. Bro. Gibson did not draw any of his traveling expenses until the end of his term of office.

In accordance with the recommendation of the board last year, the following debentures were purchased:

Debentures of town of Woodstock to pay.....	3.60 p.c.	\$7,000
Debentures of town of Brockville to pay.. ..	3 9-16 p.c.	\$3,000
		<hr/>
		\$10,000

The total amount paid for the debentures, including premiums, was \$11,529.08.

The funds of Grand Lodge on May 31st, 1899, were as follows:

The British Canadian Loan & Investment Co. at 4¼ p.c.	\$15,000 00
The Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co. at 4¼ p.c.....	15,000 00
The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co. at 4 p.c....	10,000 00
The Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co. at 4 p.c..	10,000 00
The Landed Banking & Loan Co. at 4¼ p.c.....	10,000 00
The Landed Banking & Loan Co. at 4¼ p.c.....	5,000 00
The Ontario Loan and Debenture Co. at 4¼ p.c.....	5,000 00
The Canadian Savings & Loan Co. at 4¼ p.c.....	5,000 00
Woodstock Debentures (face value) at 6 p.c.....	7,000 00
Brockville Debentures (face value) at 4 p.c....	3,000 00
	<hr/>

Total investments.....	\$85,000 00
Current Account—Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	\$11,302 22
	<hr/>
	\$96,302 22

Making the investments as follows:

Toronto....	\$35,000 00
Hamilton... ..	15,000 00
London.....	25,000 00
Woodstock... ..	7,000 00
Brockville... ..	3,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$85,000 00

Which amounts represent the balance at the credit of the following accounts:

General Fund.....	\$80,655 47
Asylum Fund.....	15,646 75
	<hr/>
	\$96,302 22

The board have examined the following accounts and finding them correct, recommend their payment:

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.. ..	\$ 100 00
Grand Secretary Balance of Incidentals to May 31, 1899.....	118 92
Grand Secretary Advance for Incidentals.....	500 00
Grants to Benevolence.....	10,150 00
General Masonic Relief Association Annual Fee.....	119 00
Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond.....	50 00
	<hr/>
	\$11,037 92

The Committee on Printing and Supplies report that the following accounts are correct and the board recommend their payment:

Spectator Printing Co., Proceedings and General Printing....	\$ 434 98
R. Duncan & Co., binding, etc....	55 85
J. Eastwood & Co., Stationery....	76 06
Howell Lithograph Co., Cheque Books.....	32 00
Copp Clark & Co., Certificates.....	424 25
	<hr/>
	\$1,022 24

A letter has been received from R. W. Bro. Jaques, of Jarvis, who has recently visited the lodge, in reference to the petition presented by the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge of Jerusalem, asking for permission to make an appeal to the world for assistance to build a Masonic Temple at Jerusalem. While the board cannot see any reason for changing their decision of last year in reference to the granting of this permission, yet if they can see their way clear to build the Temple without asking for outside assistance, Grand Lodge might reasonably make them a grant of \$200 on the completion of the same.

Fraternally submitted,

A. R. HARGRAFT,

Chairman Sub-committee on Audit and Finance.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Audit and Finance be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON BENEVOLENCE

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board, through the Committee on Benevolence, beg to report that they have received 291 applications, which have been dealt with as follows:

150 applications from private lodges, of which 140 have been granted, amounting to \$5,530.00.

10 have been refused.

125 applications from L. B. of R., of which 119 have been granted, for \$2,000 00.

Six have been refused.

Special grants by Grand Lodge:

Mrs. Wilson....	\$ 150 00
Miss Mary Wilson...	300 00
Miss M. H. Harris..	75 00
Mrs. Harington....	150 00

Interim grants for temporary relief since the last annual communication.....	355 00
Total grants, 1899.....	10,115 00
Total grants, 1898.....	10,475 00
Decrease in 1899.....	355 00

Fifteen brethren and five women have received the maximum grant.

Returns have been made by all lodges who have received supplementary aid, except Nos. 17, 33, 48, 57, 69, 85, 99, 107, 129, 141, 142, 161, 166, 204, 222, 277, 295, 299, 303, 311, 315, 336, 358, 373, 386, 391, 397, 401, 428—222 lodges.

The board regret the large number of lodges neglecting to make returns and recommend that no cheque for this year's grants be forwarded to any of the above lodges until satisfactory returns of last year's grants are received by them for local relief.

Returns have been made by all the local boards of relief now in existence.

The board regret that the local boards at Belleville and Brantford have been dissolved.

Fifty-four lodges receiving grants from Grand Lodges and making returns have contributed.....\$ 2,253 00

And six making returns contributed nothing.

Local Boards of Relief contributed.. ..\$ 2,582 74

During the year 1898 the amount contributed for benevolence was as follows:

Grand Lodge grants through all sources.. ..	\$10,395 00
Grants by fifty-one lodges.....	2,253 00
Grants by local boards of relief....	2,582 74
	<hr/>
	\$15,230 74

The board recommend that no payments be made on acciaries be printed in the Proceedings of Grand Lodge, and that the supplementary report of the board on interim grants be not printed.

The board recommends that no payments be made on account of grants made to new applicants or to those in which investigation is specially directed by the committee, until after investigation by the inspector.

Owing to the length of time which has elapsed since the last inspection (three years) the board recommend that an inspection be made of all applications for relief which came before the sub-committee at this Annual Communication and that a full report be made thereon.

The board recommend that the inspector be paid for his attendance on the sub-committee the sum of \$15 and expenses.

The board again express their appreciation of the great benefit to the craft of the work of the General Masonic Board of Relief of the United States and Canada.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN E. HARDING,

Chairman Sub-committee on Benevolence.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board on Benevolence be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board beg to report upon the cases of Grievances and Appeals laid before them, as follows:

1. Unity Lodge 376, Huntsville, vs. Bro. F. G. Pokorney, larceny and conviction therefor by the courts of competent jurisdiction.

Grand Lodge ordered at its last communication (see G. L. Proceedings, 1898, page 273), that Bro. Pokorney be summoned to show cause at this meeting of Grand Lodge why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. The proper notice has been sent to the said brother, and he having made default, your board recommend that Bro. F. G. Pokorney be expelled from the craft.

2. Star in the East Lodge, No. 164, re Bro. Wm. Patterson. Application of above lodge for the restoration of Bro. Patterson, who was expelled by Grand Lodge in July, 1881. The matter was remitted to the D.D.G.M. of the Georgian District to report for the reasons given last year and reported in Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1898, page 273. The board have the report of said D. D. G. M. before them to the effect that Bro. Patterson is still unrepentant of the act for which he was expelled in 1881. Your board therefore recommend that the petition for restoration be not granted.

3. Marmora Lodge, 222, vs. Bro. Donald Clarke, larceny and conviction by court of competent jurisdiction. Grand Lodge at its last meeting ordered that Bro. Clarke be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. Bro. Clarke has appeared before your board by W. Bro. B. Lott, who has given your board in writing such evidence as justifies them in recommending that the M. W. the Grand Master appoint a commission to investigate into the truth of the facts alleged by Bro. Clarke, said commission to report to the Grand Master, who shall have power to remove the suspension passed by Marmora Lodge upon Bro. Clarke, and in the meantime the summons to appear given Bro. Clarke be enlarged to next meeting of Grand Lodge subject to the decision of the Grand Master as aforesaid.

4. Scotland Lodge, 193, vs. Bro. J. Zimmerman, forgery, etc. Grand Lodge at its last session ordered that Bro. Zimmerman be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show

cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offences. The proper notice having been sent to the brother, and he having made default, your board recommend that Brother J. Zimmerman be expelled from the craft.

5. Corinthian Lodge, 96, vs. Bro. S. J. Sanford, embezzlement of county funds. Grand Lodge at its last communication (see G. L. Proceedings, 1898, page 274) ordered that Bro. Sanford be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the said offence. The proper notice having been sent to the brother and he having made default, your board recommend that Bro. S. J. Sanford be expelled from the craft.

6. Bro. Thos. Rutherford, of Valley Lodge, 100, vs. Bro. Chas. N. Pirie, seduction of a Mason's daughter. The brother was tried by his lodge on the 23rd day of January, A. D. 1899, found guilty, suspended indefinitely, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Against this decision, Bro. Pirie, by his solicitor, on the 27th day of June, 1899, appealed on the ground that there was no evidence given of any offense committed, and that the greater portion of the evidence before said lodge was hearsay evidence, and that the decision arrived at was contrary to the weight of evidence, although no evidence was adduced for the appellant. Your board are of the opinion that the evidence is not entirely conclusive of the guilt of the accused, and we recommend that a new trial be had.

7. W. Bro. W. Wright and Seven Star Lodge, 285 (see G. L. Proceedings, 198, page 285). In this case, which was an appeal, by W. Bro. Wright against the action of Seven Star Lodge in dismissing a charge against one Bro. McGirr, a member of said lodge, for misappropriation of moneys. Grand Lodge ordered that Seven Star Lodge be ordered to produce all books, evidence and papers before this meeting of Grand Lodge for investigation upon said appeal. The said lodge has sent your board a full statement of the facts showing that the lodge refused to accept the charge against Bro. McGirr, and W. Bro. Wright has also sent what evidence he had in support of his said charge. Your board cannot say that Seven Star Lodge erred in refusing to accept the charges and place Bro. McGirr on trial. Your board further are of the opinion that Bro. McGirr committed no Masonic offence, and recommend that Bro. Wright's appeal be dismissed.

8. Lodge 332, Stratford, vs. W. Bro. Yeman, procuring abortion. Grand Lodge at its last communication ordered that the W. Bro. should be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. Evidence having been given that proper notice was sent to the W. Bro. and he having made default, your board recommend that W. Bro. J. G. Yeman be expelled.

9. St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris, vs. W. Bro. C. M. Foley, embezzlement. Grand Lodge at its last annual meeting ordered that W. Bro. Foley be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. The proper notice having been sent to the W. Bro., and he having made default, your board recommend that W. Bro. C. M. Foley be expelled.

10. Frederick Lodge, 217, Delhi, vs. Bro. W. H. Wilbur and W. Bro. C. G. Wood, charges. (1) That Bro. Wilbur stated with malicious intent that no one could get into the lodge; (2) that said brother did disclose his intention of keeping out at least one candidate for initiation because his son had been rejected; (3) that said Bro. Wilbur did cast a black ball against at least one of two candidates because his son had been rejected and did disclose such ballot after it had been taken; (4) that Bro. C. G. Wood was aware of and sympathized with Bro. Wilbur's intention of keeping out candidates for initiation; (5) that the said W. Bro. Wood did approach Mr. Geo. A. Smith, a candidate, and did inform him of Bro. Wilbur's intention of blackballing Mr. Thos E. Morgan, another candidate to be balloted for, because said lodge had rejected his (Bro. Wilbur's) son. The proceedings by the said lodge upon said charges are in our opinion wholly irregular. Your board therefore recommend that all the said proceedings be vacated and the said brethren restored to good standing, without prejudice to said lodge or any member thereof laying other or similar charges and proceed thereon de novo.

11. Wilson Lodge, 86, Toronto, vs. R. W. Bro. T. Sargant. (1) Lascivious, immoral and disgraceful association with the wife of a brother Mason, and who is a member of Rehoboam Lodge, 65; (2) violation of obligation; (3) violation of particular injunction of the ritual; (4) misdemeanors involving moral turpitude. The R. W. Bro. was tried by his lodge on the 8th day of October, 1898, found guilty, suspended indefinitely, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Your board concur in the action of Wilson Lodge, and recommend that R. W. Bro. Sargant be summoned to appear before the next communication of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the said offence.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES H. BURRITT,

Chairman Sub-committee on Grievances and Appeals.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. James H. Burritt, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Grievances and appeals be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE CONDITION OF MASONRY.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board have received and carefully read the reports of eighteen District Deputy Grand Masters, as well as the tabulated statements of the nineteen districts, and are pleased to

report that of the 361 lodges in the province 356 have been officially visited and inspected during the year, and that many of them have been visited two and three times. Only five have not been visited, viz.:

Vienna Lodge, No. 237.....	Vienna.
Keystone Lodge, No. 412.....	Sault Ste. Marie.
Mattawa Lodge, No. 405.....	Mattawa.
Lake of the Woods Lodge, U. D.....	Rat Portage.
Granite Lodge, U. D.....	Fort Frances.

One report, that of the D. D. G. M. of Frontenac District No. 14, having through an error been forwarded too late, has not yet reached the board, but the D. D. G. M. has furnished a verbal report and the tabulated statement for the district, which enables the board to report upon the condition of all of the lodges in the jurisdiction.

The seven lodges reported at the last communication as not having been visited have in accordance with the recommendation of the board been inspected this year, and the board urge upon the incoming D. D. G. M's, the necessity of visitations being made to every lodge, and that special attention be given to the five lodges named.

The board are pleased to be able to report that the D. D. G. M's. have performed their duties in a most painstaking manner. Considerable sacrifice of time and money are made by these officers. While almost invariably they have been welcomed and hospitably entertained, the board regret that in some instances their services have not been recognized by even the payment of their traveling expenses. The board once more call attention to the plain duty of the lodges in this particular, and confidently hope that this will be the last occasion upon which it will be necessary to refer to the matter.

From the reports of the statistical tables sent in by the D. D. G. M's., certain important facts bearing upon the condition of Masonry are apparent.

1. There has perhaps been more than usual care exercised in the selection of material.

2. There has been a net gain in membership of 1,088, making a total membership of 25,084.

3. Of the 361 Masters of Lodges 331 can work all the degrees. Of the remaining 30, several can work two degrees, while a few can work only one.

4. The private benevolence of the lodges during the year has amounted to \$8,448.

5. 312 lodges have their properties insured against loss by fire, but 49 have no insurances at all.

6. There is perfect harmony in all the lodges with four or five exceptions.

The above broad facts indicate that Masonry in this jurisdiction is in a healthy condition. It is considered advisable, however, to direct the attention of the District Deputy Grand Masters to the importance of insurance against loss by fire, and it is suggested that they endeavor during the coming year, to induce the lodges not insured to conform to the oft-repeated recommendations of Grand Lodge in this regard.

The annual cost is very small, while if a lodge loses its furniture and properties, having no insurance, its progress and prosperity may be seriously retarded, if not destroyed.

The public recognition of God and religion, by attendance as Masons at Divine service, seems to have been very generally observed throughout the districts.

One D. D. G. M. reports having issued dispensations to elect officers in a lodge at a date other than that fixed by by-law and another to instal officers of a lodge at a date other than fixed by by-law. The board directs attention to these irregularities, with the view of impressing upon D. D. G. Ms. that these are illegal acts. In the Grand Master alone is vested the exercise of this prerogative. The cases in which D. D. G. M's. may issue dispensations are enumerated in the constitution.

The board note with pleasure the attention paid by the various D. D. G. Ms to the expressed wish of the M. W. the Grand Master, that special efforts should be made to restore to active membership non-affiliates and brethren suspended for non-payment of dues. While no appreciable results are as yet apparent, the fact remains that the question has been discussed very generally in the lodges, and an interest aroused which with continued effort cannot fail to bear good fruit.

The reports of the D. D. G. Ms. are most interesting and valuable, containing as they do a history of the condition and work of the lodges in their respective districts, but there is much in some of these which is of no general importance to Grand Lodge. Notably the names of the brethren whom they met, or who accompanied them in visitations, the method of conveyance, the state of the weather, and unnecessary details of hospitalities extended to them. While pointing this out, the board recognize the indefatigable efforts of these important officers, who have without exception energetically and faithfully discharged the onerous and responsible work entrusted to them.

Fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,

Chairman Sub-committee on Condition of Masonry.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on the Condition of Masonry be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board through the Committee on Constitution and Laws, have the honor to give out the following report:

The board are informed that the following notices of motion have been or are to be withdrawn, and they therefore do not think it necessary to report on them:

No. 3. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

No. 4. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

No. 5. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

No. 6. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

Nos. 8 and 9. R. W. Bro. Burritt.

Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. V. W. Bro. Cuthbert.

The board confine their observations respecting the notices of motion to their bearing on the constitution in that respect.

No. 1 seems unobjectionable.

No. 2 seems unobjectionable.

No. 7 seems unobjectionable.

No. 15 seems unobjectionable.

No. 16 seems unobjectionable.

R. W. Bro. Burritt has informed the board that Nos. 8 and 9 will be withdrawn simply for the purpose of recasting them and providing for proper safeguards in connection with the consent of a lodge and other matters, and that he proposes bringing them forward in amended form at next meeting of Grand Lodge.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

RICHARD T. WALKEM,

Chairman Sub-committee on Constitution and Laws.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board on Constitution and Laws, be received.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON PRINTING AND SUPPLIES.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board, through the Committee on Printing and Supplies, beg leave to report:

1. That they have examined the following duly certified accounts, and recommended the same to the Audit and Finance Committee for payment:

Spectator Printing Co. (Hamilton), Proceedings, Constitutions, etc.....	\$ 434 08
R. Duncan & Co. (Hamilton), binding, etc..	55 85
J. Eastwood & Co. (Hamilton), stationery, etc.....	76 06
Howell Litho. Co. (Hamilton), cheque books..	32 00
Copp, Clark & Co. (Toronto), certificates, etc..	424 25

\$1,022 24

2. A very general desire has been expressed by members of the craft throughout the jurisdiction that full-page, half-tone portraits of the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge since its organization to the present time, should be secured for publication in the Proceedings from year to year until the list is exhausted. The board heartily concur in this timely request, and beg to recommend (a) that the portraits of five (5) Grand Masters, according to seniority, be inserted therein; (b) that the same procedure be followed from year to year until the number shall have been completed in accordance therewith; and (c) that the Grand Secretary be empowered to procure from year to year such portraits as may be required, furnish the same to the contractors for printing, and attend to their insertion in suitable places throughout the annual Proceedings of Grand Lodge.

3. In conformity with instructions from Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary secured six tenders for the lithographic work required by Grand Lodge, and in the presence of the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary, the Chairman of this committee opened the tenders alluded to, and the board unanimously recommend that the offer of the Alexander & Cable Lithographing Co. be accepted, their's being the lowest. They also recommend that the necessary agreement be executed by the Grand Secretary with the above-named contractors in accordance therewith.

4. The board will endeavor to place the different reports of Grand Lodge (those deemed prudent to print at this time) in the hands of the brethren as soon as possible after their submission to Grand Lodge, and not before.

Fraternally submitted,

J. S. DEWAR.

Chairman of Sub-committee on Printing and Supplies.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, and

Resolved, That the report of the board on Printing and Supplies be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE FRATER- NAL DEAD.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario:

Most Worshipful Sir and Brethren—

On behalf of the Board, I beg to submit the following report:

Since last we met in annual communication we have been called upon to deplore the loss by death of many who have been endeared to us by close association and because of their virtues. Among those who may properly be mentioned separately are: R. W. Bros. David Collins, of Kincardine; Francis Richardson, of Toronto; Wm. Waddington, of Kingston; G. H. F. Dartnell, of Whitby; W. L. Hamilton, of Belleville, and E. G. Wells, of Simcoe, Past District Deputy Grand Masters; R. W. Bro. John W. Murton, of Hamilton, Past Grand Senior Warden; L. A. Congdon, of Dunnville, Grand Registrar; V. W. Bros. John McCarter, of North Toronto, Past Grand Pursuivant; F. Rowland, of Kingston, P.G. S. of W.; C. McDonald, of Tilsonburg, Grand Steward; B. J. Freer, of Minden, and W. B. Hall, of Princeton, Past Grand Stewards, and W. Bros. McPherson, of Bothwell, J. M. Munroe, of Almonte; J. Smeaton and W. H. Timbers, of Ottawa, and C. W. Davis, of London; and there are many others "whose names are duly recorded."

The greatest of all the pagan philosophers held death in itself to be a blessing greatly to be desired, and an event which, notwithstanding some natural shrinkings of the flesh, we ought to contemplate with serenity and approach with confidence. For, he said, as sleep is the most blessed of all the benefactions to man, and as sleep is but partial and temporary death, what must be the perfect realization of that condition which gives final rest to the overlabored faculties and puts a period to the sorrows of life? And he proceeded to argue that if death is nothingness, and a final ending of existence, then it is to be desired because it liberates us from the miseries of life; and if it is not utter extinction, then it is still more to be desired, because it raises virtuous men to companionship with the immortal gods.

If a heathen could so comfort himself in view of his approaching dissolution, how much more should we, who fondly think we have a better hope, look upon death as a benefactor? For we do not believe it to be final, nor the sleep of the grave eternal.

Not to dwell here upon the promise of revelation and the teachings of the Christian religion, which most Masons profess, we may point to the great lessons of our oft-taught mysteries, enfolding the truth, which we doubt not, that he who puts off the vesture of the flesh shall continue in another state of existence, and, if his earthly life has been virtuous, we do not doubt that that existence will be one of unspeakable felicity. This faith we hold concerning those of our brethren who, having finished their work here, have been summoned hence. We mourn their loss, for such is the constitution of our nature that we grieve when that which is pleasant to us is taken away. We sorrow because princes in Israel have fallen, and strong hands have been taken from the work which is to do. Yet in our sorrow we find consolation, because our departed brethren have finished their work and entered upon their everlasting rest; because they have set an example to the profit of others, and because we have joy in thinking of the pleasant hours we have spent in their company. Their monu-

ment is the love of their brethren, and we know full well that "not marble nor the gilded monuments of princes" shall outlive the memories of those who have diffused knowledge and lessened the pangs of misery in the world. The place where they sleep is consecrated ground; for, while temples crumble, and the sculptured memorials of the world's great captains fall to decay, the resting places of the virtuous dead become holier with the long lapse of the vanishing years. Therefore, though we sorrow at our bereavement, we reverently thank God that these our brethren, who have been taken away from us, have lived and that the world is better because they had lived.

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. FREED.

Chairman Sub-committee on Fraternal Dead.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Fraternal Dead be received and adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, when it was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be received and printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION.

Procedure re Expulsion:

It was moved by R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That clause 22 of the Book of Constitution be amended by the addition of the following:

"It is further provided that power be given to the Grand Master to authorize the Grand Secretary to summon every brother reported and recommended for expulsion by his private lodge, to appear before the sub-committee of the board which meets at the same time as the annual communication of Grand Lodge next following the action of the private lodge.

PRESENT FROM ROYAL SOLOMON MOTHER
LODGE, 293.

The Grand Secretary, on behalf of R. W. Bro. W. Jaques, of Jarvis, handed over to Grand Lodge three gavels, which R. W. Bro. Jaques had received when in Jerusalem recently, from the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293, for presentation to the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to make suitable acknowledgment.

CALLED OFF.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet again on Thursday, 20th July, at 10 o'clock forenoon.

SECOND DAY.

Thursday, 20th July, A. D. 1899.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at 10 a.m.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, on behalf of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives of this Grand Lodge beg to report that there are 361 warranted lodges on the grand register; 176 are represented by their duly qualified officers; 111 are represented by proxy; 10 are not represented by proxy but have Past Masters present; 64 are unrepresented in any way. There are 601 names registered, having a total of 1,177 votes.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM ROAF,

P. W. D. BRODRICK,

LOCKBURN B. SCOTT,

Committee.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, seconded by R. W. Bro. P. W. D. Brodrick, and

Resolved, That the Supplementary Report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board have given respectful consideration to the subjects referred to in the address of the M. W. the G. M.

The object of the reference of this address to the board is understood to be to ensure the carrying into effect, so far as the board may deem it possible or prudent, of any suggestions or recommendations made by the Grand Master, or the remedying of any defects or abuses in connection with the administration of matters, in which the Grand Lodge has jurisdiction, which may have come under his observation and which he regards of sufficient importance to deserve notice in his address.

Fortunately the tone of the address throughout is of the most cheerful character, and it contains but little matter which calls forth action on the part of the board.

The board have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the ability, zeal and earnestness displayed by the Grand Master in the performance during the past year of the duties attached to his important position. The address shows that he has been active in visiting different parts of the jurisdiction and performing those functions which our constitution and usages have assigned to him as his prerogative. While it cannot be expected that a Grand Master should usurp the functions of a D. D. G. M. as regards the visiting of lodges, it is desirable and tends greatly to the welfare of the craft that he should visit important centers. These visits are fully appreciated by the brethren and have a most useful and stimulating effect upon the lodges.

Apart from the acknowledgment made by the G. M. of the assistance given him by the R. W. the Deputy G. M., the board are fully acquainted with his desires to express its appreciation of the great ability of that officer. The Grand Master is fortunate in having as his right hand man a brother so well qualified for the position, so earnest and zealous, and so popular with the brethren as R. W. Bro. Hungerford. More it might not be prudent to say.

In connection with the subject of the brethren who have died during the past year, the Grand Master deplores the neglect of the duty of attending the funerals of deceased brethren. It is hoped that the dereliction of duty referred to is not general. At any rate, the words of the Grand Master cannot fail to call the attention of brethren to the brotherly relations between each other, and to the propriety of paying in some

manner that respect to our deceased brethren which we would pay to a member of our family. In connection with this subject the board would suggest that the funeral service presented by Grand Lodge should receive careful revision. This would not be the place to record or consider the objections which have been and are constantly being made to the present form of ceremony. These objections are numerous, and it would be well in the opinion of the board that the service should be revised by a committee of brethren qualified to undertake that duty.

The board are happy to be able to join with the Grand Master in his expressions of satisfaction at the present prosperous condition of the craft throughout the jurisdiction. This prosperity is undoubtedly largely due to the admirable manner in which the D.D.G.M's. perform the duties of their offices. Their fidelity in the discharge of their trust and their zeal and self-denial have repeatedly elicited high praise from the authorities of the most intelligent foreign Masonic bodies. It is our duty distinctly to recognize, as the Grand Master has done, our obligations to the D. D. G. M's, and to give them at least the assurance that their services are fully appreciated by Grand Lodge. The private lodges can manifest appreciation of the service rendered them by complying with the request made by Grand Lodge that the expenses of the D. D. G. M's. visits should be paid by those lodges which are in a position to pay them.

The M. W. the Grand Master refers to the position of brethren who have been suspended for non-payment of dues, and suggests that they should be dealt with in a charitable and liberal spirit. A reader of the Grand Master's address not acquainted with the provisions of our constitution on this subject might infer that undue hardship was exercised towards brethren in default for non-payment of dues. The board, while concurring in the expression of regret by the Grand Master that so many brethren should be in a state of suspension for non-payment of dues, cannot attribute this unfortunate state of affairs to any defect in our present system, which is based upon the experience of many years. The cases must surely be rare in which brethren cannot pay the small fees annually attached to lodge membership, and the lodges have power to remit the dues of any brother who is too poor to pay them. Surely under these circumstances the fault must be with the defaulting brother. It is well known that many brethren quite able to pay their dues submit to suspension with apparent indifference. Such lukewarm brethren are of no advantage to the lodge. A man who is able to pay his dues and does not pay them says in the most distinct way that he thinks the advantages not worth the money they cost. Pity or compassion is due to such a man only for his sad state of indifference.

The M. W. the Grand Master alludes in his address to the subject of the abuse of the ballot. This abuse is very much to be regretted, but it is an incident inseparable from the use of the ballot. Many brethren seem to think that the prosperity of a lodge is to be measured by the number of its ini-

itations and the amount of fees which it takes in. Nemesis usually arrives in the case of such lodges in the form of brethren who have been, but never should have been, admitted, whose propensity for evil finds expression in indiscriminate blackballing. The board are of opinion that sufficient care is not exercised in the admission of candidates to lodges, and that prosperity in the form already alluded to may be too dearly purchased. Several remedies have been suggested to meet the evil of indiscriminate blackballing, particularly a relaxation of the restrictions now connected with the ballot. These suggestions, however, have not been favorably accepted by the craft, and it is evident that the present restrictions must continue. Care in the admission of candidates and the exercise of patience, forbearance and the spirit of brotherly love can alone cure this evil.

The board heartily endorse the encomiums bestowed by the Grand Master on M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson in connection with the History of Freemasonry shortly to be published, and feel confident that his enterprise will meet with that success which his zeal, energy and industry entitle it.

The board concur with the Grand Master in his regret respecting the representation of foreign Grand Lodges near our Grand Lodge. It would be well that these honors should be distributed, but a foreign Grand Lodge has the right to select its own representative, and though this is usually done on the recommendation of our Grand Master, it is difficult to see how this right could be properly interfered with.

Referring to the subject of decisions contained in the Grand Master's address, the board would remark—

1. That it seems clear that the constitution does not authorize the master of a lodge to pass the ballot more than twice. (See constitution.)

2. That without attempting to lay down any rule of law upon the subject the board concur with the Grand Master as to the impropriety of allowing a discussion on the merits or qualifications of a candidate after the ballot has once been passed.

The board agree with the M. W. the Grand Master in his opinion that two candidates should not be initiated at the same time.

The board also concur in the 3rd, 4th and 5th recommendations and decisions contained in the address.

The board are of opinion that our Grand Lodge should be represented at the ceremonies attending the centenary of the death of George Washington. All the Grand Lodges of the United States will be represented on that occasion, and our Grand Master, with his grand officers, have received an invitation to be present. The board would suggest that the deputation consist of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, and that their expenses be paid out of the funds of Grand Lodge.

The board have much pleasure in testifying to the satisfactory manner in which the permanent officers of Grand Lodge have performed their duties. R. W. Bro. Mason, the Grand Secretary, has completed 25 years of service, and it is hardly necessary to say to Grand Lodge that his popularity has increased year by year. The board desire heartily to congratulate Brother Mason on his success in winning the affection of

his brethren, while, at the same time, performing his duties strictly and without fear or favor. A man who does his duty properly and yet retains the friendship of all is rarely met with. The board would suggest the presentation to R. W. Bro. Mason of some token of Grand Lodge's appreciation of his quarter of a century's services, and the appointment of a committee for that purpose.

Fraternally submitted,

RICHARD T. WALKEM,

Chairman Sub-committee on Grand Master's Address.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved, That the report of the board on the address of the M. W. the Grand Master be received and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed scrutineers of the ballot for Grand Officers and elective members of the Board of General Purposes, and upon their report, the following were declared duly elected as office bearers for the ensuing term, namely:

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Toronto, Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, London, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonell, Ottawa, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. Bro. J. R. Stuart, Stratford, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. Bro. Rev. Robert Campbell, D. D., Renfrew, Grand Chaplain.

M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. Bro. T. M. Davis, Hamilton, Grand Registrar.

R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Hamilton, Grand Secretary.

And by an open vote of Grand Lodge.

W. Bro. John Robertson, London, Grand Tyler.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Lindsay.

R. W. Bro. William Roaf, Toronto.

R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt, Pembroke.

R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, Barrie.

R. W. Bro. George S. May, Ottawa.

Subsequently the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to announce the following appointments on the board for the ensuing term, namely:

R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, Kingston.
 R. W. Bro. R. L. Gunn, Hamilton.
 R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, Toronto.
 R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, M. D., Leamington.
 R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, Peterborough.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following brethren were nominated by the representatives of lodges as District Deputy Grand Masters for their respective districts, and were appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master, viz.:

R. W. Bro. J. T. McKillop, Wardsville, Erie District, No. 1.
 R. W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Wyoming, St. Clair District, No. 2.
 R. W. Bro. Geo. F. Morris, London, London District, No. 3.
 R. W. Bro. John H. Reid, Seaforth, South Huron Dis., No. 4.
 R. W. Bro. Geo. Landerkin, M. D., Hanover, North Huron District, No. 5.
 R. W. Bro. A. W. Crysler, Delhi, Wilson District, No. 6.
 R. W. Bro. Edward Burns, Elora, Wellington District No. 7.
 R. W. Bro. F. A. Latshaw, Dundas, Hamilton Dis., No. 8.
 R. W. Bro. F. D. Kent, M. D., Thornbury, Georgian Dis., No. 9.
 R. W. Bro. J. H. Crow, Welland, Niagara District, No. 10.
 R. W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, Toronto, Toronto West Dis., No. 11.
 R. W. Bro. F. G. Inwood, Toronto, Toronto East District, No. 11a.
 R. W. Bro. John M. Shaw, M. D., Keene, Ontario Dis., No. 12.
 R. W. Bro. W. Latimer, Belleville, P. Edward Dis., No. 13.
 R. W. Bro. Abraham Shaw, Kingston, Frontenac Dis., No. 14.
 R. W. Bro. R. W. Watchorn, Merrickville, St. Lawrence District, No. 15.
 R. W. Bro. W. A. Mackay, Renfrew, Ottawa Dis., No. 16.
 R. W. Bro. W. S. Beaver, Port Arthur, Algoma Dis., No. 17.
 R. W. Bro. J. N. Shearer, Huntsville, Nipissing Dis., No. 18.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION.

Public Processions.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. McKnight, seconded by R. W. Bro. James McLauchlan, and

Resolved, That clause 250 of the Book of Constitution be rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

"No public procession of the brethren as Masons, clothed in any of the regalia of the craft, except a Masonic funeral, shall on any pretense be allowed, or take place, without the permission of the Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand

Master. The proceedings at any procession, including a funeral, which may be attended by the brethren, shall be immediately reported by the Master or Masters of the lodges taking part therein to the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary, and to the District Deputy Grand Masters of the districts in which the lodges are respectively situated.

The Antient Charges.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. McKnight, seconded by W. Bro. Wilbee, and

Resolved, That clause 13 of the "Antient Charges" in the Book of Constitution be amended by adding thereto the words "except a Masonic funeral."

Gravenhurst Sanitarium.

It was moved by W. Bro. Walter Barwick, seconded by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee to examine into and report upon a proposal to devote a part of the asylum fund to the establishment of a cottage at the Gravenhurst Home for Consumptives, and to frame regulations for the government of the cottage if established; and that the committee, consist of the M. W., the Grand Master, the M. W. the Grand Treasurer, M. W. Bros. R. T. Walkem, J. K. Kerr, J. Ross Robertson, William Gibson and Kivas Tully, and R. W. Bros. R. B. Hungerford, J. E. Harding and the mover.

Masonry in Canada, by M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved, That five copies of M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson's History of Masonry in Canada be purchased for the Grand Lodge library.

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

It was decided upon ballot that the next annual communication of Grand Lodge should be held at the city of London.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, seconded by M. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, and

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the Committee on Credentials and Scrutineers of Ballot for their valuable and efficient services.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, seconded by R. W. Bro. James Glanville, and

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the Committee of Management of the Ottawa lodges for the satisfactory arrangements made for the holding of the present annual communication.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, assisted by M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray and A. A. Stevenson, proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly-elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

At a subsequent date the M.W. the Grand Master was pleased to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz :

- V. W. Bro. E. F. Clarke, M. P., Toronto, Grand Senior Deacon.
- " E. T. Essery, London, Grand Junior Deacon.
 - " C. H. Witthum, Hepworth, Grand Superintendent of Works.
 - " John Nicolle, Kingston, Grand Director of Ceremonies.
 - " Alfred Jones, West Flamboro, Assistant Grand Secretary.
 - " Frederick Millman, Woodstock, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.
 - " N. W. Cleary, Renfrew, Grand Sword Bearer.
 - " J. W. Hart, M. D., Huntsville, Grand Organist.
 - " J. J. Farley, Belleville, Assistant Grand Organist.
 - " James P. Boles, Ingersoll, Grand Pursuivant.
 - " J. E. Biddle, Port Rowan, Grand Steward.
 - " D. H. Currie, Rat Portage, Grand Steward.
 - " R. J. Munro, Lakefield, Grand Steward.
 - " H. H. Wells, Prescott, Grand Steward.
 - " N. Shafley, Wellandport, Grand Steward.

- V. W. Bro. James McFarlane, Toronto, Grand Steward.
“ W. J. Hallett, Barrie, Grand Stewart.
“ F. Holwell, Baden, Grand Steward.
“ John Anderson, Camlachie, Grand Steward.
“ E. Aitchison, Wardsville, Grand Steward.
“ Thomas Shaw, Hespeler, Grand Steward.
“ E. M. Carleton, Toronto, Grand Steward.
“ John Parsell, Norway, Grand Standard
Bearer.
“ W. C. Fitzgerald, London, Grand Standard
Bearer.

THE GRAND LODGE CLOSED.

The business of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed at 3.45 o'clock p. m., in ample form.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT JUNE 24TH, 1899, AND

Lodges marked (a) hold their Installation of Officers on the Festival of St. John

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
12	Niagara.....	Niagara	W. on or b. f. m.	Andrew Ferry ..	L. Campbell
3	aThe An. St. John's	Kingston	1st Thursday..	Wm. B. Dalton ..	John Kinghorn...
5	aSussex	Brockville ...	3rd Monday ..	J. C. Stagg	Geo. K. Dewey ..
6	The Barton	Hamilton	2d Monday	J. P. Steedman...	A. T. Freed.....
7	Union	Grimsby	Th. on or b. f. m.	A. C. Cole	W. F. Randall ..
9	aUnion	Napanee	F. on or b. f. m.	W. S. Herrington	E. W. Scott
10	aNorfolk	Sluscoe	Tu. on or b. f. m.	J. G. Bottomly...	Wm. P. Kelly.....
11	aMoira	Belleville	W. on or b. f. m.	W. S. Morden ..	John Newton.....
14	aTrue Britons.....	Perth	1st Monday	D. G. MacMartin	W. A. Moore.....
15	St. George's.....	St. Cathar'n's	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Thos. W. Wilson	A. N. Lindsay ..
16	aSt. Andrew's.....	Toronto	2nd Tuesday ..	Henry T. Smith	J. F. Slater
17	St. John's.....	Colbourg	Tu. on or b. f. m.	John W. Bickle	Robert Buck
18	aPrince Edward...	Pictou	Th. on or b. f. m.	Delos Spafford...	J. H. Murney.....
20	aSt. Johns.....	London	2nd Tuesday ..	James S. Shaw ..	M. D. Dawson...
21a	aSt. John's.....	Vankleek Hill	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Alex. Robertson	J. A. Ferguson...
22	aKing Solomon's...	Toronto	2d Thursday ..	W. W. Glass	Robert Horne ..
23	Richmond.....	Richm'd Hill	M. on or b. f. m.	Ernest Coombs...	H. A. Nicholls...
24	aSt. Francis.....	Smith's Falls	F. on or b. f. m.	Richard Craig ..	J. A. Houston ..
25	aIonic	Toronto	1st Tuesday ..	Fred W. Harcourt	Sam' T. Bastedo
26	aOntario	Port Hope	3rd Thursday ..	Rev. G. Broughall	W. J. Robertson
27	aStrict Observance	Hamilton	3rd Friday	W. Breckenridge	Wm. C. Morton...
28	aMount Zion.....	Kemptville ..	W. b. f. m.	Richey Conn	W. H. Bottom ..
29	aUnited	Brighton	Th. on or b. f. m.	B. C. H. Becker...	T. P. Keeler.....
30	aComposite.....	Whitby	1st Thursday ..	John Burns	Jos. White
31	aJerusalem.....	Bowmanville	W. on or b. f. m.	D. B. Simps n ..	Jos. Pattinson...
32	aAmity	Dunnville	W. on or a. f. m.	Geo. D. Robertson	Wm. H. Braund
33	aMaitland	Goderich	2nd Tuesday ..	Geo. Porter	Ross A. Rastal ..
34	aThistle	Amherstb'rg	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Thos. Hobbly, MD	F. M. Falls
35	St. John's.....	Cayuga	Th. on or a. f. m.	Wm. Riley	Ed. T. Seaton...
37	aKing Hiram.....	Ingersoll	1st Friday	Chas. A. Choate	W. A. Woolson...
38	aTrent.....	Trenton	Tuesday b. f. m.	J. D. Rowe	Elmer E. Ingall
39	aMount Zion.....	Brooklin	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Wm. Smith	E. R. Eddy
40	aSt. John's.....	Hamilton	3rd Thursday ..	R. A. Sommerville	W. J. McAllister.
41	aSt. George's.....	Kingsville	Th. on or b. f. m.	Prosper D. White	Geo. Rumble.....
42	aSt. George's.....	London	1st Wednesday	M. W. Althouse	A. Ellis
43	King Solomon's...	Woodstock ..	1st Tuesday ..	J. J. Watt	A. McGachie
44	aSt. Thomas.....	St. Thomas ..	1st Thursday ..	Henry Roe	L. Slater
45	Brant	Brantford	2nd Tuesday ..	Josh. Broadbent	S. F. Passmore...
46	aWellington.....	Chatham	1st Monday	J. R. Battisby ..	Alex. Gregory ..
47	aGreat Western ..	Windsor	Th. on or b. f. m.	David L. Carley	I. P. McConnell
48	aMadoc	Madoc	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Chas. H. Tumelty	R. T. Gray
50	aConsecon.....	Consecon	W. on or b. f. m.	D. H. Rowe	Wm. Bowen
52	Dalhousie	Ottawa	1st Tuesday ..	Jas. Panington...	C. S. Scott
54	aVaughan	Maple	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Nathaniel Shunk	Eu ton Sisley ..
55	aMerrickville.....	Merrickville	Tu. on or b. f. m.	James E. Angus	G. B. Magee
56	aVictoria.....	Sarnia	1st Tuesday ..	W. F. B. Colter...	F. C. Watson.....
57	aHarmony	Brookbrook ..	W. on or b. f. m.	Geo. Lang	J. F. Senn
58	aDoric	Ottawa	1st Friday	J. A. Armstrong	J. F. Argue.....
61	aAcacia	Hamilton	2nd Friday	S. A. Morgan	Fred. H. Yapp ..
62	aSt. Andrew's.....	Caledon'a	W. on or b. f. m.	Chas. E. Donaghy	John Thompson
63	aSt. John's.....	Carleton Place	2d Wednesday	A. S. Gorrell, M. D.	A. T. Hudson.....
64	aKilwinning	London	3rd Thursday ..	N. W. Scandrett	John Overell.....
65	aRehoboth.....	Toronto	1st Thursday ..	David Hoskins...	Wm. Crichton ..
66	aDurham	Newcastle	Tu. on or b. f. m.	A. Farncomb.....	E. Simmons
68	aSt. John's.....	Ingersoll	3rd Friday	Alex. Rose	Thomas Duggan.
69	Stirling	Stirling	Th. after f. m.	W. Broadman	Geo. Bailey
72	Alma	Galt	Last Tuesday	Robert Hunter...	Andrew J. Oliver
73	aSt. James	St. Marys	1st Monday	Jno. G. Constable	A. Carman
74	aSt. James.....	Bethel	M. nearest f. m.	Robert Edwards	Syrenus Cole.....
75	aSt. John's.....	Toronto	1st Monday ..	Martin Levery ..	H. S. King
76	aOxford	Woodstock ..	2d Monday	Rev. J. C. Farthing	Robt. Anderson ..
77	aFaithful Breth'n	Lindsay	1st Friday	John J. McMahon	R. G. Corneil
78	aKing Hiram.....	Tilsonburg ..	W. on or b. f. m.	Fred. Biette	L. B. C. Livingst'n
79	aSimcoe	Bradford	F. on or b. f. m.	Alvin Orton	Burton Stoddart
81	aSt. John's.....	Mt. Brydges.	Tu. on or b. f. m.	George Lipsit ..	Thomas C. West
82	St. John's.....	Paris	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Frank Hammond	W. Barrowelough

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31st MAY, 1898.

the Evangelist; all others on that St. John the Baptist.

No. of Lodge	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Ex- pelled.	Re- stored.	Total M' m' b's	Last Ret'ns	Ledger.		Paid. Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal	Cr. Bal	
2	1	1	1			2					44	June '99			\$ 26 50
3	4	2	2		1	5	1			1	138	"			92 25
5	4	6	6	1	1	1				3	152	"			84 50
6	10	6	10	13		14	9			2	318	"	\$149 25		160 00
7	1	1	1	1		1	4				55	"	\$ 50		37 00
9	1	5	5	2	8	2				2	77	"	29 00		77 50
10	4	3	3	2	1	1					95	"	51 50		60 00
11	18	15	16	2	1		3			1	162	"		1 00	140 25
14	2	2	2	1	7	1	3			1	87	"			55 25
15	2	1	2		1	1				2	29	"			85 75
16	14	10	11	4	12	4					225	"			148 50
17	5	4	2		3	1	4				70	"			37 00
18	11	11	10	3	1	1					182	"			117 00
20	11	10	13	2	3	5	4				170	"			117 75
21a	6	6	6	2	1						43	"			23 50
22	13	13	15	2	2	1	7			2	192	"	3 00		67 75
23	2	2	2		2					1	30	"			30 75
24	5	4	3	2	1	1	2			1	99	"			71 00
25	16	14	17	8		2					232	"			117 00
26	10	6	7	1	3	1					91	"			72 75
27	7	9	8	5	2	4	1			2	271	"	1 50		161 00
28	1	2	5		1						30	"			14 75
29	2	3	1	2	1	1				1	77	"			50 50
30	5	5	3	3	3	1					68	"			36 00
31	14	13	12		2	1					51	"			44 75
32	3	3	2		1	1					66	"			67 75
33	9	9	8	1							111	"		2 00	70 75
34	4	2	1		2	1				1	47	"			34 50
35	6	8	11	2	1					1	80	"			71 75
37	2	1	1								70	"			41 50
38	10	10	8	1	1	1	5			1	74	"			50 50
39	6	6	6		1	3					27	"			
40	12	12	12	2	5	6	3			1	355	"			222 25
41	11	11	7	1	1	2				1	82	"			54 00
42	6	6	6	2	4	3	4				111	Dec. '98			1 50
43	10	7	6		6	1	7			9	90	June '99			146 75
44	9	8	5	5	2	3					152	"			113 25
45	10	6	3	3	3	2					128	"	29 25		77 75
46	6	6	4	6	1	1	1			1	131	Dec. '97			84 75
47	10	11	10	4	3	3				3	163	June '99		1 00	127 75
48	5	4	4			2				2	84	Dec. '98			104 00
50				2	2		4				34	"			20 25
52	6	3	4	2	1						121	June '99			105 00
54	2	1	1			1	5				34	"			21 00
55	7	5	5	1		2	4			1	56	"			52 25
56	11	14	15	1	1	3					91	"			79 25
57	8	8	7		1		2				55	"		17 75	22 00
58	3	4	4		1	2	8				96	"			117 75
61	17	16	14	2	6	2	3				257	"			170 00
62	4	4	2	1	1		1				36	"		9 50	20 25
63	9	8	4	1	1	4					100	"			57 50
64	7	7	7	2		2	5				145	Dec. '98			17 00
65	11	11	6	1	3	4				1	232	June '99	2 00		144 00
66				2	2						28	Dec. '98			15 50
68	7	5	2							2	75	June '99			19 75
69	6	2	2	1		2	12			1	49	"			30 00
72	1	1	1				4				90	"			47 50
73	1				3		2			5	65	"			
74	5	4	3	1							43	"			40 25
75	22	23	6	2	2	5				1	227	"			214 75
76	13	13	12	4	2	1	1			2	106	"			72 00
77	3	2	1	1	1	1	2				87	"			49 00
78	6	6	5	2	1	2	3				114	"	2 50		84 50
79	8	7	7								34	"			20 75
81	2	2			4					2	52	"			29 75
82	1	1	1	2				1		1	48	"			23 75

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
83	aBeaver.....	Strathroy...	F. on or a.f.m.	John Robertson	R. F. Richardson
84	aClinton.....	Clinton.....	F. on or a.f.m.	W. D. Fair	W. P. Spalding...
85	aRising Sun.....	Athens.....	Th. on or b.f.m.	Albt. E. Moulton	Jas. Ross.....
86	aWilson.....	Toronto.....	3rd Tuesday...	J. J. Gee, M. D....	J. W. Siddall.....
87	Markham Union.....	Markham....	F. on or b.f.m.	J. B. Gould.....	R. A. Mason.....
88	St. George's.....	Owen Sound..	W. on or b.f.m.	Don'd McKe zie	John Rutherford
90	aManito.....	Collingwood..	W. on or a.f.m.	Daniel Wilson...	T. H. White.....
91	aColborne.....	Colborne....	F. on or b.f.m.	W. Ballamy.....	Geo. Keyes.....
92	aCatawqui.....	Kingston....	2d Wednesday	John Gordon.....	Robt. Hendry, Jr
93	aNorthern Light.....	Kincardine...	1st Wednesday	J. H. Scott.....	R. D. Hall.....
94	aSt. Mark's.....	Port Stanley	2d Tuesday....	W. H. Farr.....	L. Mothersill, M.D
96	aCorinthian.....	Barrie.....	1st Thursday...	Alex. Cowan.....	Alfred Wilkes...
97	aSharon.....	Sharon.....	Tu. on or b.f.m.	Richard Breckon	P. F. Pearson, M.D
98	True Blue.....	Bolton.....	F. on or b.f.m.	G. A. Norton.....	Robt. Roberts...
99	aTuscan.....	Newmarket...	2d Wednesday	Alfr'd Webb.....	C. H. Lloyd.....
100	aValley.....	Dundas.....	M. on or b.f.m.	G. C. Wilson.....	D. McMillan...
101	aCorinthian.....	Peterboro'...	W. on or b.f.m.	F. D. MacKay...	M. A. Morrison...
103	aMaple Leaf.....	S. Catharines	Last Thursday	H. W. Hodgins...	H. J. Johnston...
104	St. John's.....	Norwich.....	W. on or a.f.m.	Robert Gray.....	G. W. Poldon...
105	aSt. Mark's.....	N. Falls S'th.	Tu. on or b.f.m.	J. C. Hull.....	W. D. Garner.....
106	aBurford.....	Burford.....	W. on or b.f.m.	David Secord.....	C. H. Pratt.....
107	St. Paul's.....	Lambeth.....	W. on or b.f.m.	John Kelly.....	H. Poole.....
108	Blenheim.....	Princeton....	F. on or a.f.m.	Thos S. Telfer...	A. R. Hirston...
109	aAlbion.....	Har'ow'smith	F. on or b.f.m.	A. Lockhart, M.D.	James Cooke...
110	aCentral.....	Prescott.....	1st Tuesday...	T. J. McClellan...	H. H. Wells.....
113	aWilson.....	Waterford...	W. on or b.f.m.	D. S. Bale.....	E. G. Christie...
114	aHope.....	Port Hope....	1st Friday.....	J. B. White.....	W. G. Coulter...
115	aVye.....	Beamsville...	Tu. on or b.f.m.	John Gibson.....	F. S. Prudhomme
116	aCassia.....	Thedford....	M. on or b.f.m.	Caleb Kennedy...	T. K. Pool.....
118	Union.....	Schomberg...	M. on or b.f.m.	Alex. Wilkinson.	W. J. Brereton...
119	aMaple Leaf.....	Bath.....	M. before f. m.	Jos. Morgan.....	F. W. Arns rong
121	Warren.....	Fingal.....	Tu. on or b.f.m.	Frank R. Else...	Leonard J. Else..
121	aDoric.....	Brantford...	3rd Friday.....	W. H. Inglis.....	John S. Gray...
122	aRenfrew.....	Renfrew.....	1st Monday...	D. A. Ward.....	James Reid.....
123	aThe Belleville.....	Belleville....	1st Thursday...	J. W. Johnson...	W. H. Adams.....
125	aCornwall.....	Cornwall....	1st Tuesday...	Jno. G. Harkness	A. E. McLean...
126	aGolden Rule.....	Cam'bellford	Fr. on or b.f.m.	G. Redford, Jr..	Geo. L. Di kson
127	aFrank.....	Frankford....	M. before f. m.	G. O. A. Rose.....	Chester W. Clarke
128	aPembroke.....	Pembroke....	1st Thursday...	John Bodell.....	Ralph Ross.....
129	The Rising Sun.....	Aurora.....	1st Friday.....	W. J. Stevenson...	D. A. Radcliffe...
131	aSt. Lawrence.....	Southam'ton	Tu. on or a.f.m.	F. H. Lee.....	C. R. Vans'tone...
133	aLebanon Forest.	Exeter.....	M. on or b.f.m.	Jas. A. Stewart...	C. H. Sande's...
135	aSt. Clair.....	Milton.....	Th. on or b.f.m.	M. McCrimmon...	R. Coats.....
136	Richardson.....	Stouffville...	W. on or b.f.m.	D. C. Smith.....	Rev. S. Lawrence
137	aPythagoras.....	Meatord.....	F. nearest f.m.	L. F. Boyd.....	J. Patterson...
139	Lebanon.....	Oshawa.....	2nd Tuesday...	Wm. Dickie.....	Jas. McCaw.....
140	aMalabide.....	Aylmer.....	W. on or b.f.m.	R. G. Moore.....	C. F. Burdick...
141	aTudor.....	Mitchell.....	Tu. on or b.f.m.	H. S. Anderson...	Wm. Babb.....
142	aExeelsior.....	Morrisburg...	F. on or b.f.m.	W. K. Farlinger...	John Warren...
143	aFriendly Brothers	Troquois.....	Wednes' b.f.m.	Wm. E. Fis' er...	D. Fink.....
144	aTecumseh.....	Stratford....	3rd Friday.....	R. T. Harding...	Wm. E. Brooker
145	aJ. B. Hall.....	Millbrook....	2d Thursday...	A. A. Smith.....	R. J. Doak.....
146	aPrince of Wales.....	Newburgh...	Wednes' b.f.m.	Robert Guy.....	G. A. Aylesworth
147	aMississippi.....	Alnonte.....	1st Friday.....	John Argue.....	Robt. Pol'ock...
148	aCivil Service.....	Ottawa.....	2d Tuesday...	L. B. Scott.....	W. J. Beatty.....
149	aErie.....	Port Dover...	M. on or b.f.m.	S. L. Butler.....	J. Vary.....
151	aThe Grand River	Berlin.....	2d Tuesday...	K. Von Pirch.....	A. B. Campbell...
153	aBurns.....	Wyoming.....	Th. on or b.f.m.	Robert Hart.....	J. M. Wilson...
154	aIrving.....	Lucan.....	Th. on or b.f.m.	Math. Thompson...	Wm. Matheson...
155	aPeterboro'.....	Peterboro'...	1st Friday.....	W. E. Conway...	R. W. McFadden
156	aYork.....	N. Toronto...	3rd Friday.....	W. E. Hoiland...	T. N. Armstrong
157	Simpson.....	Newboro'...	Tu. on or b.f.m.	W. G. Dargavel...	Josh H. Butler...
158	aAlexandra.....	Oil Springs...	Thursd'ya.f.m.	A. W. Parks.....	W. S. Dugnu...
159	aGoodwood.....	Richmond...	W. on or b.f.m.	Clarke Craig...	H. Reily.....
161	aPercy.....	Warkworth...	Wednes' b.f.m.	I. Humphries...	J. W. Baker.....
162	Forest.....	Wroxeter.....	M. on or b.f.m.	Thomas Brown...	Thos. Gibson, Jr

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCE AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

No. of Lodges	Initial'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths.	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Ex- pelled.	Re- stored.	Total Numbs	Last etms	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal	Cr. Bal	
83			1	2	1		3				73	Jun			42 50
84	6	4	6	2	1		1			1	67	"			36 25
85		3	2	2	2		3				57	"			
86	19	21	13	4	1	1		1			172	"	53 50		140 50
87	3	2	2	2						1	33	"	3 00		26 00
88	2	3	4	1	1	2	9			2	72	"			29 75
90	6	5	5	1							116	"		2 00	78 00
91	4	5	4	3	1	2	2			2	83	"			50 50
92	6	5	5	5	2	2	2			1	109	"	2 50		159 00
93	2	1	1	2	3	4					89	"			57 50
94	3	2	2		2	2				2	28	"	38 75		20 00
96	9	10	12	6	2	1	3				140	"		5 00	106 50
97	1	2	2								48	"			37 25
98	3	3	2	2	3		5			1	42	"			27 00
99	5	5	5	1		1	1				47	Dec. '98			92 25
100	1	2			3						71	June '99			44 75
101	13	11	11	2	2	1					86	"			64 00
103	5	4	3	3	1	1	9			1	108	"			66 50
104	3	4	2				1			1	78	"			20 00
105	1	1	1			1					68	"		4 00	22 00
106	1	1	1		3	1	2	1			66	"			45 00
107	2	2	2		5						51	"	12 75		13 00
108	1			2		1	2				25	"			13 00
109	4	2		1	1						55	"			39 75
110	3	5	4	2	1	1	4			2	90	"			72 00
113	9	9	9	3	3						67	"			58 25
114	3	3	3	1	1	1					81	"			22 25
115	7	7	5			1					78	"			53 75
116	1	1	1		1		2				32	"			18 25
118											23	"			11 50
119	2	3	3	1	1						27	"			19 75
120	2	1	1	1	1						33	"			21 00
121	25	21	18	8	2	2	3				172	"			130 50
122	1	1	2	1		1	1				100	"			64 00
123	10	8	9	1	2	2	6				137	"			82 50
125	3	1	1	2			3				74	"			68 00
126	2	2	2		1	1	1				34	"			24 25
127	3	2	2	1	2		3			1	66	"	39 75		27 00
128	11	10	13	1	1	1					135	"		5 00	109 50
129	8	5	5		8	1					52	"	30 50		29 00
131	3	3	3							1	38	"			27 50
133	4	4	3		1	1					67	"			50 25
135	5	6	8		7	1	2			3	54	"	41 00		77 50
136	2	2	2	1	2						35	"			18 50
137	4	1	1	2		1					49	Dec. '98			
139	3	2	2	1	4	2				1	64	"			41 00
140	4	6	8		6	1	1				82	June '99			59 50
141	2	1	1	1		1				1	44	Dec. '98	2 50		26 75
142	1	1	1		1	1	3				74	June '99			130 00
143	8	8	8	1	2		5			3	70	Dec. '98			101 00
144	5	1	1		6	2	4			1	110	June '99			65 50
145	4	3	1	2	1		3			1	49	"			89 35
146	3	3	3	3		2					46	"			24 25
147	4	4	4	1	2						68	Dec. '98	1 25		41 00
148	5	5	6	2	4	1	2				75	"			56 50
149	3	2	2								53	"	1 50		21 00
151	4	5	6		2	1					92	June '99			62 25
153	5	4	4		1						69	"	23 50		41 00
154	8	7	5	2	5	2	9			5	51	"			29 00
155	11	10	10	1	2	1					109	"			76 75
156	4	3	3	1	4	3	5				83	"	22 00		57 25
157	1				8	1				1	52	"			40 00
158	8	7	6		1		1				55	"			36 75
159	1	3	2			1					64	"	103 50		
161		1	1								52	Dec. '98		2 00	45 36
162	6	6	5				2				28	June '99			23 50

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting	W. Master.	Secretary.
164	aStar in the East	Wellington...	Tu.on or b.f.m	F'd.E. McDonald	J. D. Wilson
165	aBurlington	Burlington...	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. Ferguson...	B. S. Hicks.....
166	aWentworth	Stoney Creek	M. on or b.f.m	J. C. Springstead	R. H. Dewar
168	aMerritt	Welland	M. on or b.f.m	A. P. Forster	Geo. Wells
169	aMacnab	Pt. Colborne	Tu.on or b.f.m	Richd. Matthews	John Cook
170	aBritannia	Seaford	1st Monday	R. E. Jackson	J. O. Rose.....
171	aPrince of Wales	Lawrence St	F. on or a.f.m	John A. McIntyre	S. H. Weldon.....
172	aAyr	Ayr	Tu.on or b.f.m	Jas. Cassie	A. J. Reid.....
174	aWalsingham	Port Rowan.	Th.on or b.f.m	E. Meek, M. D	Jas. Ryan
177	The Builders	Ottawa	2d Friday	W. J. Sykes	H. H. Cairns ...
178	aPlattsville	Plattsville	F. on or b.f.m	Walter Joyce	W. R. Henderson
180	aSpeed	Guelph	1st Tuesday	W. G. Stephenson	Wm. Parker
181	aOriental	Port Burwell	Tu.on or b.f.m	S. T. Logan	D. M. Chute
184	aOld Light	Lucknow	Th.on or b.f.m	John D. Nichol	Harry Days
185	aEnniskillen	York	M. on or b.f.m	Joseph Peart	Rev C. Scudamore
186	aPlantagenet	Plantagenet.	M. on or b.f.m	F. L. Switzer, M.D	W. A. Chamberlin
190	aBelmont	Belmont	F. on or b.f.m	John Boylston	Jas. McMillan ...
192	aOrillia	Orillia	F. on or b.f.m	W. H. Tudhope	J. W. Ellis
193	aScotland	Scotland	M. on or b.f.m	E. G. Malcolm	J. A. Messecar ...
194	aPetrolea	Petrolea	2d Wednesday	W. D. Burgess	C. R. Simson
195	aThe Tuscan	London	1st Monday	W. A. Young	P. W. D. Roderick
196	aMadawaska	Arnprior	2d Monday	Geo. Richman	Neil Campbell ...
197	aSaugeen	Walkerton	2d Tuesday	David Traill	H. B. McKay
200	St. Alban's	Mount Forest	F. on or b.f.m	Jas. A. Young	R. O. Kilgour.....
201	aLeeds	Gananoque	Tu.on or b.f.m	John Kee	W. Y. Boyd
203	Irvine	Elora	3rd Friday	Nor MacMurchy	Thos. Godfrey...
205	New Dominion	N. Hamburg	M. on or a.f.m	S. G. Holley	A. Fraser
207	aLancaster	Lancaster	W. on or b.f.m	A. D. Cameron	W. N. McGillis...
209a	St. John's	London	1st Friday	A. W. White	T. A. Rowat
209	Evergreen	Lanark	1st Tuesday	Chris. Forbes	W. A. Fields
212	aElysian	Garnet Island	1st Monday	John Kenned	R. Raymond
215	Lake	Ameliasburg	F. on or b.f.m	T. S. Farmcomb	Geo. E. Roblin ...
216	aHarris	Orangeville	Tu.on or b.f.m	Geo. J. Brett	D. McPherson...
217	aFrederick	Delhi	M. on or b.f.m	R. B. Wells, M.D.	A. W. Cryslar ...
218	aStevenson	Toronto	2d Monday	Edward Egan	R. Higginbottom
219	aCredit	Georgetown.	F. on or b.f.m	Edward Finlay	T. J. Wheeler
220	aZeradatha	Uxbridge	M. on or b.f.m	J. H. O'Brien	John G. Vicars...
221	aMountain	Thorold	W. on or b.f.m	R. W. Oxley	W. T. Fish
222	aMarmora	Marmora	Tuesday b.f.m	R. B. Proutt	J. A. Hubbell...
223	aNorwood	Norwood	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. Hutchinson	C. P. Cuffe
224	aZurich	Hensall	Th.on or b.f.m	Joseph Ellis	Jas. Bonthron ...
225	aBernard	Listowel	F. on or b.f.m	F. R. Blewett	J. J. Foster
228	aPrince Arthur	Odessa	M. on or a.f.m	R. L. Gilbert	Robt. Bennett ...
229	aIonic	Brampton	3rd Tuesday	W. H. McFadden	A. Morton
230	Kerr	Barrie	4th Monday	Fred. Marr	F. N. Lloyd.....
231	Lodge of Fidelity	Ottawa	3rd Thursday	Jas. A. Devitt	C. J. Pearson
232	aCameron	Dutton	W. on or b.f.m	Jas. Balkwell	R. A. Kirkland ...
233	aDoric	Park Hill	Tu.on or b.f.m	F. J. Hutchins	A. E. Mullin
234	aBeaver	Clarksburg	Tu.on or b.f.m	Hy Pedwell	J. H. Dickinson...
235	Aldworth	Paisley	F. on or b.f.m	G. Rathwell	W. J. Chisholm .
236	aManitoba	Cookstown	Tu.on or a.f.m	W. McGowan	W. E. Stoddart...
237	Vienna	Vienna	F. on or b.f.m	Benj. Br en	Geo. Thornton...
238	Havelock	Watford	Tu.on or b.f.m	Thos. Harris	David Watt
239	Tweed	Tweed	F. on or b.f.m	P. T. Bowlby	C. W. Craig
242	aMacey	Mallorytown	M. on or b.f.m	J. C. Dickey	R. W. Tennant...
243	aSt George	St. George.	Th.on or b.f.m	Jas. H. Fleming	G. M. McKay
245	aTecumseh	Thamesville	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. M. Horn	J. J. Vincent
247	aAshlar	Toronto	4th Tuesday	A. R. Murphy	M. B. Aylsworth
249	aCaledonian	Midland	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. T. Dudley	H. S. Ruby
250	Thistle	Embro	Th.on or b.f.m	W. J. Geddes	J. G. Anderson...
253	aMinden	Kingston	1st Tuesday	John Nicolle	Thos D Minnes
254	Clifton	Niag. Falls	1st Thursday	F. F. Wood	Alex. Gray
255	Sydenham	Dresden	2d Thursday	Frank H. Laird	J. I. Wiley
256	ran's Point	Farran's Pt.	W. on or b.f.m	J. M. Cook	R. H. Hanes
257	aGalt	Galt	1st Tuesday	T. C. Pearce	J. W. Gilliland...

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With-drawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Ret'd.	Total M m b s	Last Returns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	C r. Bal	
164	4	2	2	.....	1	1	2	.....	.....	1	52	Dec.'98	.....	.....	\$ 35 75
165	4	4	3	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	June '99	.....	.....	72 75
166	3	4	5	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	Dec.'98	\$ 1 00	.....	63 25
168	1	1	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	4	64	June '99	.....	.....	42 00
169	4	4	4	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	51	Dec.'98	.....	.....	40 00
170	8	8	10	1	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	86	June '99	.....	.....	63 75
171	5	5	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	"	.....	.....	39 50
172	3	4	4	.....	.....	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	48	June '98	4 00	.....	33 00
174	4	4	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	53	June '99	.....	.....	36 50
177	10	8	9	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	128	"	.....	.....	81 75
178	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	36	"	.....	.....	23 00
180	2	3	3	2	1	2	.....	.....	.....	3	79	"	.....	.....	47 25
181	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	Dec.'98	.....	.....	13 25
184	.....	1	1	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	June '99	.....	.....	29 25
185	4	4	3	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	"	11 50	.....	53 50
186	3	4	6	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	"	.....	.....	29 00
190	8	8	6	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	27	"	.....	.....	36 00
192	8	5	2	.....	4	1	.....	.....	.....	4	90	"	48 50	.....	76 75
193	2	3	1	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	57	"	.....	.....	33 75
194	3	2	.....	.....	3	.....	3	.....	.....	1	88	"	.....	.....	47 00
195	7	4	3	2	4	1	2	.....	.....	.....	78	"	.....	.....	44 00
196	7	7	5	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83	"	.....	.....	66 25
197	3	5	6	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	49	"	.....	.....	40 50
200	4	4	4	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	43	"	29 50	.....	24 50
201	2	4	4	.....	.....	1	13	.....	.....	.....	82	Dec.'98	.....	.....	47 50
203	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	43	June '99	.....	.....	21 50
205	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	June '98	.....	2 00	25 00
207	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	"	.....	.....	12 50
209a	8	8	8	.....	.....	2	8	.....	.....	2	162	Dec.'98	.....	4 00	141 75
209	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	June '99	.....	.....	.....
212	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	31	"	.....	.....	15 00
215	7	6	5	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	3	58	"	.....	.....	32 50
216	5	6	6	.....	7	2	.....	.....	.....	2	98	Dec.'98	.....	.....	71 00
217	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	June '99	.....	.....	25 50
218	23	17	12	3	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	184	"	.....	2 00	127 75
219	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	54	Dec.'98	13 50	.....	14 00
220	4	2	2	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	1	67	June '99	.....	.....	37 25
221	8	7	6	2	2	2	4	.....	.....	1	60	"	.....	.....	47 00
222	7	6	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	56	"	.....	3 00	45 50
223	1	1	1	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	21	"	.....	.....	28 25
224	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	34	Dec.'98	.....	.....	27 00
225	7	6	4	.....	3	.....	2	.....	.....	1	83	June '99	.....	.....	64 25
228	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	33	"	.....	.....	21 00
229	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	"	3 00	.....	55 50
230	7	6	5	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	94	"	.....	.....	76 50
231	12	14	10	5	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	"	.....	2 50	59 50
232	1	.....	.....	.....	3	2	10	.....	.....	.....	26	"	.....	.....	.....
233	3	3	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	"	.....	.....	18 00
234	6	4	3	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	56	"	.....	.....	46 00
235	2	2	3	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	"	.....	.....	33 75
236	4	4	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	Dec.'98	.....	6 00	29 50
237	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	June '99	.....	.....	26 00
238	6	6	5	2	1	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	63	"	.....	.....	74 50
239	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	June '98	26 50	.....	14 00
242	3	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	1	36	June '99	.....	.....	23 50
243	6	6	5	1	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	45	"	.....	.....	28 25
245	1	1	3	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	51	"	.....	.....	45 50
247	11	13	18	2	4	3	3	.....	.....	1	166	"	.....	.....	119 25
249	7	5	7	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	61	"	.....	.....	41 25
250	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	26	"	.....	.....	16 00
253	3	4	4	.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	71	"	.....	.....	43 25
254	6	4	3	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	92	"	2 00	.....	26 00
255	1	2	3	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	51	Dec.'98	.....	.....	28 50
256	4	2	2	.....	3	1	3	.....	.....	.....	71	June '99	.....	.....	59 25
257	8	8	4	1	1	2	.....	.....	.....	1	81	"	.....	.....	43 25

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
255	Guelph	Guelph	2d Tuesday....	R. Mahony, jr ...	F. H. Pratt.....
260	aWashington	Petrolia	1st Wednesday	Joseph Belasco ..	J. M. Hattie.....
261	aOak Branch	Innerkip	Th.on or b.f.m.	E. W. Town	Geo. Campbell...
262	aHarriston	Harriston	2d Monday.....	H.R. McCullough ..	E. W. Lambert...
263	aForest	Forest	W. on or b.f.m.	A. F. Steele.....	P. W. Campbell
264	aChaudiere	Ottawa	4th Tuesday....	D. J. McCuaig	Jas. Peterkin....
265	aPatterson	Thornhill	Th.on or b.f.m.	George Fisher ..	G. A. Langstaff...
266	aNorthern Light...	Stayner	Tu.on or b.f.m.	A. J. F. Sullivan ..	W. A. Doner.....
267	aParthenon	Chatham	1st Wednesday	J. S. Morrison	Chas. R. Cape...
268	aVerulam	Bobcaygeon	F. on or b.f.m.	W. A. Davis	R. Ventress.....
269	aBrougham Union	Brougham	W. on or a.f.m.	A. E. Major.....	D. R. Beaton....
270	aCedar	Oshawa	4th Tuesday....	F. L. Henry	L. K. Murton....
271	aWellington	Erin	2d Wednesday	F. W. Royce	E. Overland, Jr...
272	aSeymour	Ancaster	W. on or b.f.m.	T. A. Walker	Geo. Moore.....
274	aKent	Blenheim	M. on or b.f.m.	R. L. Gosnell....	J. Crookshank ...
276	aTeeswater	Teeswater	F. on or b.f.m.	Francis P. Moore ..	James Gallagher ..
277	aSeymour	P. Dalhousie	W. on or b.f.m.	John L. Houston ..	John Green
279	aNew Hope	Hespler	W. on or b.f.m.	W. Keffer.....	John Jardine.....
282	aLorne	Glencoe	Th.on or b.f.m.	W. J. French.....	Edwin Gale.....
283	aEureka	Belleville	W. a. f. m.....	C. O. Brickman ..	W. J. Diamond...
284	aSt. John's	Brussels	Tu. on or b.f.m.	George Halliday ..	J. A. Creighton ..
285	aSeven Star	Alliston	W. on or b.f.m.	J. N. Reynolds....	H. M. Wright.....
286	aWingham	Wingham	1st Tuesday....	Joseph Golley ..	J. A. Morton.....
287	aShuniah	Port Arthur....	1st Tuesday....	Wm. J. Clarke	Jas. W. Morgan...
289	aDoric	Lobo	Th.on or b.f.m.	Edward Shaw	P. L. Graham, MD
290	aLeamington	Leamington	Tu.on or b.f.m.	Wm. Irwin	C. H. Kenney.....
291	aDufferin	W. Flamboro	Th.on or b.f.m.	A. C. Ross	Alfred Jones.....
292	aRobertson	King	M. on or b.f.m.	T. J. Norman.....	Chas. Patterson ..
293	aT. Roy. Sol. Moth.	Jerusal'm Pa	1st Wednesday	W. H. Kayat.....	Kalil Saadeh, MD
294	aMoore	Courtright	Th.on or b.f.m.	R. G. Stewart	J. Brightwell.....
295	aConestogo	Drayton	Tu. on or a.f.m.	E. E. Dales.....	Thos. Henderson ..
296	aTemple	St. Catharin's ..	Last Wednes...	Jno. W. Cornwell ..	John Evans
297	aPreston	Preston	F. on or b.f.m.	George A. Ross....	Jos. Baltzer.....
299	aVictoria	Centreville	Th.on or b.f.m.	W. H. Aylesworth ..	T. V. Anderson....
300	aMount Olivet	Thorndale	Tu. on or b.f.m.	Rich. Fitzgerald ..	M. N. Wright.....
302	St. David's	St. Thomas	3rd Thursday...	Wm. H. Ingram	Fred. S. Lewis ...
303	aBlyth	Blyth	Tu. on or a.f.m.	D. D. Carder	Jas. M. Hamilton ..
304	aMinerva	Stroud	Tu. on or b.f.m.	E. T. McConkey	C. E. Chantler....
305	aHumber	Weston	W. on or b.f.m.	Thos. E. Elliott ..	R. H. Leighton....
306	aDurham	Durham	Tu. on or b.f.m.	John P. Telford	Geo. Russell.....
307	aArkona	Arkona	Th. on or b.f.m.	Fred. Patterson ..	Fred. Neeson.....
309	aMorning Star	Smith's Hill	W. on or b.f.m.	Alex. Robertson ..	John Varcoe.....
311	aBlackwood	Woodbridge	F. on or b.f.m.	Frank Smith.....	Jo. n P. Bunt.....
312	aPnyx	Wallaceburg	M. on or b.f.m.	H. Morris	E. E. Parker.....
313	aClementi	Lakefield	1st Tuesday....	Wm. M. Graham ..	K. Q. Dench.....
314	aBlair	Palmerston	F. after f. m....	E. Woodridge	J. A. Greenlaw....
315	aClifford	Clifford	3rd Monday....	E. Tolton	A. S. Allan.....
316	aDoric	Toronto	3d Thursday...	J. E. Cook	H. E. Griffith....
318	aWilmot	Baden	F. on or a.f.m.	F. Holwell	Alf. Kaufman....
319	aHiram	Hagersville	Th. on or b.f.m.	W. A. Fleck	Robert Wright....
320	aChesterville	Chesterville	M. on or b.f.m.	W. A. Brown, M.D.	J. G. Gillespie....
321	aWalker	Acton West	M. on or b.f.m.	John Lawson	W. R. Kenney....
322	aNorth Star	Owen Sound	W. a. f. m.....	R. McDowell	Wm. Coulter....
323	aAlvinston	Alvinston	W. on or b.f.m.	J. B. Martyn, M.D.	J. B. Martyn, M.D.
324	aTemple	Hamilton	2d Tuesday....	Stuart Livingston ..	Thos. P. dler.....
325	aOrono	Orono	Th. on or b.f.m.	J. S. Robertson ..	Thomas Smith....
326	aZetland	Toronto	4th Friday.....	Alex. Stewart	W. C. Eddis.....
327	aThe Hammond	Wardsville	3rd Tuesday....	Lorne Glenden'g ..	D. Johnson.....
328	aIonic	Napier	F. on or b.f.m.	W. L. Toohill	W. H. Sutherland ..
329	aKing Solomon	Navier	F. on or b.f.m.	James Noble.....	Dav d Hill
330	aCorinthian	London East	1st Tuesday....	E. Blanchard.....	H. C. Simpson....
331	aFordwich	Fordwich	Th. on or b.f.m.	Fred. A. Donaghy ..	Adam Hutcheson ..
332	aStratford	Stratford	2nd Monday....	R. M. Cassels.....	Fred. J. Scarff ...
333	aPrince Arthur	Flesherton	F. on or b.f.m.	J. A. Royd	W. J. Ballamy....
334	aPrince Arthur	Arthur	Tu. on or b.f.m.	E. E. Snider	Alex. Graham....

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1898.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Ret'd.	Total Memb's	Last Ret'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
258	2	3	5	3	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	71	June '99	.....	.....	\$74 50
260	12	12	12	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	76	"	\$38 50	.....	1 50
261	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	20	"	.....	.....	21 50
262	5	8	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58	"	.....	.....	42 75
263	6	8	7	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	"	.....	.....	47 00
264	2	4	5	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	104	June '98	.....	.....	42 50
265	4	1	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	29	June '99	6 75	.....	24 00
266	2	1	1	.....	8	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	26	"	1 50	.....	1 00
267	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	59	Dec. '98	.....	.....	32 50
268	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	"	.....	.....	13 75
269	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	32	"	17 50	.....	21 75
270	4	4	4	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	"	.....	.....	94 50
271	8	5	5	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	53	June '99	.....	.....	47 00
272	1	2	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	Dec. '98	.....	.....	50 25
274	5	5	3	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	5	65	June '99	.....	.....	87 75
276	4	5	5	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	2	24	"	.....	.....	17 50
277	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	28	Dec. '98	.....	.....	21 00
279	5	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	55	June '99	.....	.....	25 00
282	3	3	3	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	"	.....	.....	26 25
283	1	1	12	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	59	"	.....	4 00	47 75
284	1	1	2	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	59	"	.....	.....	35 00
285	6	6	6	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	"	.....	.....	25 50
286	2	4	4	.....	3	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	44	"	.....	.....	46 50
287	8	5	4	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	Dec. '98	.....	.....	73 00
289	2	2	2	.....	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	47	June '99	.....	.....	21 25
290	7	8	9	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	105	"	.....	6 00	83 25
291	3	3	3	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	49	"	.....	.....	34 75
292	8	9	10	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	1	40	"	1 00	.....	51 25
293	8	7	8	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	Dec. '98	.....	1 00	12 50
294	3	3	3	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	33	June '99	.....	.....	22 50
295	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	June '98	13 25	.....	50 00
296	2	4	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59	June '99	.....	.....	38 75
297	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	23	"	.....	.....	15 00
299	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	"	9 00	.....	20 75
300	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	"	6 25	.....	22 50
302	6	4	6	3	2	1	1	.....	.....	1	99	"	28 75	.....	64 50
303	1	1	1	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	54	"	.....	2 00	32 50
304	3	3	3	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	20	"	.....	.....	9 00
305	2	5	6	1	.....	3	2	.....	.....	.....	42	"	.....	.....	39 75
306	2	2	1	.....	2	1	3	.....	.....	.....	25	"	17 00	.....	1 00
307	.....	.....	.....	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	"	.....	.....	33 00
309	2	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	Dec. '98	2 00	.....	45 25
311	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	"	.....	.....	16 75
312	1	1	2	.....	1	.....	8	.....	.....	3	79	June '99	.....	.....	56 50
313	5	4	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	"	.....	.....	27 75
314	5	5	5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	"	.....	.....	29 00
315	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	28	"	.....	.....	16 00
316	11	10	10	4	8	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	131	"	.....	.....	37 75
318	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	June '98	.....	.....	19 50
319	4	4	3	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	June '99	.....	.....	35 25
320	7	10	8	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	1	94	"	.....	.....	80 75
321	2	5	6	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	"	.....	.....	20 50
322	7	6	7	4	3	1	17	.....	.....	.....	70	"	.....	.....	77 25
323	4	4	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	51	"	.....	26 00	73 25
324	11	10	10	6	1	2	4	.....	.....	1	246	"	68 25	.....	104 75
325	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	29	"	.....	.....	15 75
326	24	23	22	10	7	2	.....	1	.....	.....	294	"	.....	4 00	224 00
327	3	3	2	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	"	.....	.....	15 00
328	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	June '98	.....	.....	17 25
329	2	2	1	1	1	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	43	June '99	.....	.....	28 50
330	6	4	2	.....	3	.....	1	.....	.....	1	84	"	.....	20 00	46 00
331	3	3	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	"	4 25	.....	30 00
332	2	3	2	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	139	"	.....	.....	43 00
333	3	2	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	3	38	"	.....	.....	28 00
334	11	6	5	.....	3	1	1	.....	.....	4	42	"	23 75	.....	8 50

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
336	aHighgate	Highgate	F. on or b.f.m	Henry Bailey.....	Geo. Kerby.....
337	aMyrtle	Pt. Robinson	Tu.on or b.f.m	C. B. Bennett.....	Thos. Sowersby ..
338	aDufferin	Wellandport	Tu.on or b.f.m	John E. Cohoe.....	D. C. Holmes.....
339	aOrient	Toronto.....	1st Tuesday.....	John Jones.....	D. J. Kelly.....
341	aBruce.....	Tiverton	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. S. Evans.....	W. J. Chambers..
343	aGeorgina.....	Toronto.....	1st Saturday.....	H. T. White	W. H. Bates.....
344	aMerrill	Dorch'st rS'n	Th.on or b.f.m	John Sharp	W. H. Shaw.....
345	aNilestown	Nilestown	Tu.on or b.f.m	W. H. L. Bennett ..	J. McDougall.....
346	aThe Occident.....	Toronto.....	3d Wednesday.....	W. J. A. Lake	John Lillie.....
347	aMercer	Fergus	1st Friday.....	Jas. A. Goodall	James Beattie
348	aGeorgian.....	Perry'stang'sh'e	1st Thursday.....	Alfred A. Norton ..	J. J. Buckle
352	aGranite	Parry Sound.....	W. on or b.f.m	Edwin Pirie	D. Macfarlane
354	aBrock	Cannington.....	W. b.f.m.....	A. A. McKenzie.....	Joseph A. Kift....
356	aRiver Park	Streetsville.....	Tu.on or b.f.m	W. Couse.....	Wm. Taylor.....
357	aWaterdown.....	Millgrove.....	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. Pepper	B. G. Ryckman....
358	aDelaware Valley.	Delaware	F. on or b.f.m	James Finch	Jno R. Hammond ..
359	aVittoria	Vittoria	F. on or b.f.m	Robt. W. McCall ..	John Pow
360	aMuskoka	Bracebridge.....	Tu.on or b.f.m	Chas. G. Mills	Francis P. Warne ..
361	aWaverley	Guelph	4th Monday.....	Charles Law	H. E. Jackson
362	aMaple Leaf.....	Tara	M. on or b.f.m	Jas. A. McDonald ..	E. A. Gerolamy
364	aDufferin	Melbourne	W. on or b.f.m	A. Carruthers	John Cooper.....
367	aSt. George.....	Toronto.....	1st Friday.....	Jos. W. Hickson	W. J. Guy.....
368	aSalem	Brockville	2nd Monday.....	W. B. Reynolds.....	E. A. Geiger.....
369	aMimico	Lambton M.	Tu.on or b.f.m	F. F. Reeves	Archie McKinnon ..
370	aHarmony	Delta	W. on or b.f.m	D. A. Coon, M. D. ..	J. W. Russell.....
371	aPrince of Wales..	Ottawa	4th Friday.....	E. J. L. Gallaher ..	John B. Wright..
372	aPalmer	Bridgeburg.....	Tu.on or a.f.m	A. B. Hurrell	J. G. Watts.....
373	aCopestone	Welland	1st Thursday.....	G. W. Sutherland ..	Chas. Hearn
374	aKeene	Keene	Th.on or b.f.m	RevBaynes-Reed ..	J. M. Shaw, M.D. ..
375	aLorne	Omemece	1st Thursday.....	John Morrison	Hugh Murray
376	aUnity	Huntsville.....	2d Wednesday.....	T. M. Cullon	George Walton
377	aLorne	Shelburne.....	1st Friday.....	Jos. Symington.....	Chas. Mason
378	aKing Solomon's..	London West	2nd Friday.....	F. A. Andrews	W. Nicholl
379	aMiddlesex	Bryanston	W.on or b.f.m	D. McPherson	Wm. Smibert.....
380	aUnion	London	2nd Monday.....	H. M. Ryan	Jos. Ward
382	aDorie	Hamilton	3rd Monday.....	H. J. Gilbert, act..	C. V. Emory, M.D. ..
383	aHenderson	W. Winchester ..	1st Tuesday.....	S. S. Reveller	G. Johnson.....
384	aAlpha	Toronto	1st Thursday.....	J. W. Isaacs	E. J. Voss.....
385	aSpry	Beeton	W.on or a.f.m	J. R. Croft	D. J. Dunn
386	aMcColl	West Lorne.....	Tu on or b.f.m	W. A. Becker	J. A. Fuller
387	aLansdowne.....	Lansdowne.....	Th.on or b.f.m	Thos. J. Darling ..	Rev. C. J. Young ..
388	aHenderson	Ilderton.....	M.on or b.f.m	W. E. Martin	Peter Bowey
389	aCrystal Fountain	N. Augusta.....	W.on or b.f.m	W. H. Waddell	G. W. Chapman ..
390	aFlorence	Florence	Th.on or b.f.m	E. B. Brown	J. D. McMillan ..
391	aHoward	Ridgetown	M. on or b.f.m	A. G. Kennedy	W. H. Ellsworth ..
392	aHuron	Camlachie	W. on or b.f.m	PeterMcGBrown ..	A. Trusler
393	aForest	Chesley	1st Tuesday.....	M. R. Pearce	D. J. Sutherland ..
394	aKing Solomon	Thamesford.....	W. on or b.f.m	J. W. Smith	C. Stewart
395	aParvain	Comber	Th.on or b.f.m	C. W. Scherer	P. A. Flaherty
396	aCedar	Warton	Tu on or b.f.m	John McAulay	A. W. Baines
397	aLeopold.....	Bridgen	W.on or b.f.m	Joshua J. Jarvis ..	A. F. Wade.....
398	aVictoria	Kirkfield	W on or b.f.m	Ed. Mosgrove	Jos. McClelland ..
399	aMoffat	Harrietsville ..	W.on or b.f.m	H. W. Yorke	J. H. O'Neil.....
400	aOakville	Oakville	Tu.on or b.f.m	James C. Ford	C. A. Bradbury
401	aCraig	Deseronto	1st Tuesday.....	Robt. Miller	T. W. Rowland
402	aCentral	Essex	W on or b.f.m	H. P. Mart'n	A. O. Stimers.....
403	aWindsor	Windsor	1st Friday.....	Chas. Koelln	Jas. C. Guillot....
404	aLorne	Tamworth.....	F. on or a.f.m	Chas. R. Jones.....	Jas. Aylesworth ..
405	aMattawa	Mattawa	1st Tuesday.....	R. Shanks	P. Thibandean
406	aThe Spry.....	Fenel'n Falls	W on or b.f.m	Jas. L. Arnold	RevM.Farnecomb ..
408	aMurray	Beaverton	Tu.on or b.f.m	W. Williamson	Donald McKay.....
409	aGolden Rule	Gravenhurst ..	M. on or b.f.m	W. W. Winfield	J. C. Davidson
410	aZeta	Toronto	4th Friday.....	D. C. Little	R.C.Griffith,M.D. ..
411	aRodney	Rodney	Th.on or b.f.m	O. R. G. Stinson ..	Samuel Morley.....
412	aKeystone	S. St. Marie.....	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. A. Shannon	G. M. Farwell
413	aNaphtali.....	Tilb'y Cent'e	Tu.on or b.f.m	Henry McGee	W. A. Hutton

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

No. of Lodge	Initial'd	Passed	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Ret'd	Total Memb's	Last Ret'n's	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
336	1	1					1			1	54	June '99	\$ 42 00		\$ 48 00
337		1		1	4		3				20	Dec. '98	3 00		17 00
338				1							25	June '99	13 25		17 00
339	15	12	8		5	4	22	1		7	154	Dec. '98		4 00	166 00
341	2	2	1		1	2	7				37	June '99			26 75
343	46	51	47	11	10	2	2			1	188	"		2 00	194 50
344	1	1	2				2				30	"		2 00	24 75
345	2	2	2	1							30	Dec. '98			24 50
346	14	11	12	2	9	3	7			1	152	June '99			136 00
347	2	3	4			3					41	Dec. '98		12 00	
348				1			2	1			23	"			11 50
352	6	8	8		2	1	3			1	67	June '99			41 50
351	3	2	1	1			1			3	53	"		1 00	24 25
356	3	2	1	1	1						32	"	1 00		24 50
357	5	5	5	2	1		3			1	42	Dec. '98			45 00
358	1	1	1		4						39	June '99	20 50		22 50
359	2	2	2		1						37	"		2 00	29 50
360	1			1			1				39	"			24 25
361	8	7	6	1	5	2	6				88	"			77 75
362	1	1	1				1				39	"			29 50
364										1	33	June '98	72 50		30 00
367	13	13	14		6	3				2	136	June '99			112 50
368	1	2	2		1	3	3				91	"			56 50
369	8	7	6	2						3	59	"			66 50
370	6	9	9				7				63	Dec. '98			1 00
371	6	6	4		4		5			4	67	June '99		3 75	45 50
372	2	2	2	1		1	2			1	46	"			28 75
373	1	1	1	1		1				1	29	"		1 00	23 25
374			1	1	2						26	"			18 25
375	4	2	2		3		4				36	"	27 00		1 00
376	3	3	3		1						71	"		14 00	63 00
377	4	2	1	3	2					1	54	"			29 25
378	4	4	4	1	1						72	"			44 75
379	4	4	4			1	1				27	Dec. '98			26 00
380	4	4	6		1	4				4	105	"	3 00		73 50
382	8	5	6	1	1	2	4				159	June '99	1 50		105 50
383	8	8	8							2	52	"			34 25
384	16	17	15	9			3	1		2	190	"	15 00		126 50
385	1	2	2								31	"			22 00
386	1	1				1	1				38	Dec. '98	20 00		23 50
387		1	1		2	2	3				18	"	10 00		20 50
388	5	4	4		1	1				2	35	June '99			9 50
389	2	2	2	1	2		2				39	"			11 00
390	6	5	6	1	1						24	"			17 25
391	4	2	1	1	2	2	5			1	58	"			47 50
392	1	1	1	1	1					1	49	"			32 25
393				1	3						28	"	9 00		
394	1		1	2			2				57	"		2 00	35 50
395	9	8	8		4		3				41	"	1 00		22 00
396	7	7	5	2						2	61	"		2 00	22 25
397	5	5	3								45	Dec. '98			35 50
398		5	5				3				32	June '99			21 50
399	5	5	4							2	25	June '99			13 50
400	7	6	6	1	3	2				1	84	"			65 00
401	1	2	5		1	1	3			1	50	Dec. '98	32 75		15 50
402	7	7	7	1	6					1	49	June '99			33 50
403	7	7	9	1	2	2					106	"	3 00		70 75
404	1	1			1						24	"			8 50
405			2	6						2	78	"	19 50		26 00
406	1		1		4		2				39	"			23 75
408	1	1	3				1				36	"	4 00		17 00
409	3	4	3		1						32	"			21 75
410	18	18	25		4	1	1	1		4	102	"			126 50
411	3	3	4	1	1	1					37	"			54 25
412	5	4	1			2					83	"			58 50
413	9	11	13	2	7	2	5				69	"			10 0

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
414	Pequonga.....	Rat Portage..	1st Wednesd'y	James Sherman	R. R. E. Foy
415	aFort William	Fort William	W. on or b.f.m	C. H. Jackson ...	Wm. Western ...
416	Lyn	Lyn	W. on or b.f.m	George Hoag.....	Maurice Brown ..
417	aKeewatin	Keewat'n Mts	1st Friday.....	T. J. Cherry	A. J. Holmes
418	aMaxville	Maxville.....	2nd Tuesday...	Geo. W. Shepherd	D. P. McDermid ..
419	aBismarck	Pt. Edward ..	2nd Monday...	D. W. Mackenzie	B. F. George.....
420	aNipissing	North Bay....	2nd Thursday	A. J. Young	A. C. Boraback...
421	aScott	Grand Valley	W. on or b.f.m	J. A. V. Preston...	Thos. E. Simpson ..
422	oStar of the East ..	Bothwell	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. R. Hickey...	C. E. Bayley.....
423	aStrong	Sundridge	3d Wednesday	James Dunn	W. Dobson.....
424	aDoric	Pickering.....	Th. on or b.f.m	R. A. Bunting ...	Alex. Falconer ...
425	aSt. Clair	Sombra	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. M. McDonald	T. C. Cowan
426	aStanley	W. Tor. Junc	1st Tuesday....	A. H. Perfect	A. H. Royce
427	aNickel	Sudbury	1st Wednesd'y	J. R. Gordon	Gus Harwood.....
428	Fidelity	Port Perry....	F. on or b.f.m	H. G. Hutcheson	Jas. A. Underhill
429	aPort Elgin	Port Elgin....	Th. on or b.f.m	John George.....	A. H. Ridout
430	aAcacia	East Toronto	3rd Monday ...	W. J. A. Carnahan	H. A. Giles
431	Moravian	Eden Grove..	F. on or a. f.m	Thos. S. Edgar...	Wm. Trimble ...
432	aHanover	Hanover	F. on or b.f.m	Peter Zinn	John Sutherland ..
433	aBonnechere	Eganville....	2nd Monday...	H. J. Beatty	Ed. Weber
434	aAlgonquin	Emsdale	Tu. on ora.f.m	Jno. A. McDonald	John F. Mann ...
435	aHavelock	Havelock	F. on or b.f.m.	Jos. Dorricott ...	Wm. Patterson
436	aBurns	Hepworth	T. on or a. f.m.	F. Campbell, M.D	E. W. Geddes.....
437	aTuscan	Sarnia	3d Wednesday	J. A. Fowler	W. White
438	Harmony	Toronto	4th Monday ...	John C. Gardner	Thos. McQueen ..
439	aAlexandria	Alexandria...	1st Wednesd'y	Ed. H. Tiffany ...	D. H. Wason.....
440	aArcadia	Minden	F. on or b.f.m	J. W. Watson ...	W. H. Moore
441	Westport	Westport.....	1st Friday.....	Robert Flegg.....	G. M. Gorrell.....
442	Dymont.....	Thessalon....	Th on or b.f.m	Wm. L. Nichols ..	Fred. Leighfield ..
443	Powassan	Powassan	2nd Friday.....	A. Oldfield	John S. Scarlett ..
444	Nitetis	Creemore ...	T. on ora. f.m.	R. J. Niddrie	A. H. Watson.....
445	Lake of the Woods	Rat Portage ..		D. L. Mather	
446	Granite	Fort Frances		C. J. Hollands	Wm. Flood.....

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With-drawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Rest'd.	Total M'nb's	Last Returns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
414	10	7	7	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	88	June '99	47 50	.....	\$ 61 50
415	5	5	5	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	61	Dec. '98	.....	2 00	66 50
416	2	2	2	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	1	25	June '99	.....	.....	12 00
417	4	3	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	"	.....	.....	24 75
418	4	3	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	48	"	.....	.....	36 00
419	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	"	.....	.....	35 50
420	4	6	5	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	86	"	.....	2 00	92 75
421	10	9	10	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	55	"	.....	.....	49 00
422	6	6	7	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	"	.....	.....	36 00
423	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	"	.....	2 00	11 25
424	4	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	"	.....	.....	19 25
425	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	"	.....	.....	25 00
426	11	9	8	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	132	"	.....	.....	109 00
427	21	21	27	.....	8	.....	23	.....	.....	2	82	Dec. '98	98 50	.....	113 00
428	5	8	8	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	June '99	12 25	.....	34 00
429	13	11	9	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	"	.....	.....	46 75
430	7	4	1	.....	1	1	2	.....	.....	1	74	"	25 75	.....	42 50
431	5	5	6	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	"	.....	.....	37 25
432	8	8	7	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	Dec. '98	.....	.....	29 00
433	3	3	2	.....	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	33	June '99	.....	.....	27 25
434	9	6	5	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	"	.....	.....	32 00
435	7	6	6	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	2	53	Dec. '98	.....	.....	61 25
436	5	5	5	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	June '99	8 25	.....	8 50
437	7	6	4	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	"	.....	.....	45 00
438	15	11	7	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	115	Dec. '98	.....	.....	197 50
439	3	5	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	June '99	32 25	.....	.....
440	7	4	1	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	"	.....	.....	24 75
441	3	3	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	"	.....	.....	40 25
442	1	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	Dec. '98	.....	2 00	64 75
443	5	5	5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	June '99	18 00	.....	17 50
444	2	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	"	.....	.....	43 75
445	8	7	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	"	.....	.....	40 00
446	12	8	7	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	"	.....	.....	42 25
												Inter'st	General	Fund...	3077 32
												"	Asy'um	"	419 00
												P. M.	Certifi-	cates....	10 00
												Dispen-	ations	.....	46 00
												Miscel-	aneous	.....	62 25
												1791	1660	1580	380
												579	312	553	9
												219	24957		
												1431 25	307 50	21040 92	

LIST OF LODGES—BY DISTRICTS.

ERIE DISTRICT, NO. 1. (22.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. J. T. McKillop, Wardsville.

No. 34, Thistle.....	Amherstburg	No. 327, The Hammond.....	Wardsville
" 41, St. George.....	Kingsville	" 336, Highgate.....	Highgate
" 46, Wellington.....	Chatham	" 386, McColl.....	West Lorne
" 47, Great Western.....	Windsor	" 390, Florence.....	Florence
" 245, Tecumseh.....	Thamesville	" 391, Howard.....	Ridgetown
" 255, Sydenham.....	Dresden	" 395, Parvain.....	Comber
" 267, Parthenon.....	Chatham	" 402, Central.....	Essex
" 274, Kent.....	Blenheim	" 403, Windsor.....	Windsor
" 282, Lorne.....	Glencoe	" 411, Rodney.....	Rodney
" 290, Leamington.....	Leamington	" 413, Naphtali.....	Tilbury Centre
" 312, Pnyx.....	Wallaceburg	" 422, Star of the East.....	Bothwell

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 2. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Wyoming.

No. 56, Victoria.....	Sarnia	No. 294, Moore.....	Courtright
" 81, St. John's.....	Mt. Brydges	" 307, Arkona.....	Arkona
" 83, Beaver.....	Strathroy	" 323, Alvinston.....	Alvinston
" 116, Cassia.....	Thedford	" 328, Ionic.....	Napier
" 153, Burns.....	Wyoming	" 364, Dufferin.....	Melbourne
" 158, Alexandra.....	Oil Springs	" 392, Huron.....	Camlachie
" 194, Petrolea.....	Petrolea	" 397, Leopold.....	Brigden
" 238, Havelock.....	Watford	" 419, Bismarck.....	Point Edward
" 260, Washington.....	Petrolea	" 425, St. Clair.....	Sombra
" 263, Forest.....	Forest	" 437, Tuscan.....	Sarnia

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 3. (25.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. George F. Morris, London.

No. 20, St. John's.....	London	No. 289, Doric.....	Lobo
" 42, St. George's.....	London	" 300, Mt. Olivet.....	Thorndale
" 44, St. Thomas.....	St. Thomas	" 302, St. David's.....	St. Thomas
" 64, Kilwinning.....	London	" 330, Corinthian.....	London East
" 94, St. Mark's.....	Port Stanley	" 344, Merrill.....	Dorchester Station
" 107, St. Paul's.....	Lambeth	" 345, Nilestown.....	Nilestown
" 120, Warren.....	Fingal	" 358, Delaware Valley.....	Delaware
" 140, Malahide.....	Aylmer	" 378, King Solomon's.....	London W
" 171, Prince of Wales.....	Lawrence	" 379, Middlesex.....	Bryanston
" 190, Belmont.....	Belmont	" 380, Union.....	London
" 195, Tuscan.....	London	" 388, Henderson.....	Ilderton
" 209a, St. John's.....	London	" 394, King Solomon.....	Thamesford
" 232, Cameron.....	Dutton	" 399, Moffat.....	Harrietsville

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 4. (15.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. John H. Reid, Seaforth.

No. 33, Maitland.....	Goderich	No. 205, New Domini'n.....	New Hamb'
" 73, St. James'.....	St. Mary's	" 224, Zurich.....	Hensall
" 84, Clinton.....	Clinton	" 233, Doric.....	Park Hill
" 133, Lebanon Forest.....	Exeter	" 303, Blyth.....	Blyth
" 141, Tudor.....	Mitchell	" 309, Morning Star.....	Smith's Hill
" 144, Tecumseh.....	Stratford	" 318, Wilnot.....	Baden
" 154, Irving.....	Lucan	" 332, Stratford.....	Stratford
" 170, Britannia.....	Seaforth		

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. George Landerkin, M. D., Hanover.

No. 93, Northern Light.....	Kincardine	No. 331, Fordwich.....	Fordwich
" 131, St. Lawrence.....	Southampton	" 341, Bruce.....	Tiverton
" 162, Forest.....	Wroxeter	" 362, Maple Leaf.....	Tara
" 184, Old Light.....	Lucknow	" 393, Forest.....	Chesley
" 197, Saugeen.....	Walkerton	" 396, Cedar.....	Wiarton
" 225, Bernard.....	Listowel	" 429, Port Elgin.....	Port Elgin
" 235, Aldworth.....	Paisley	" 431, Moravian.....	Eden Grove
" 276, Teeswater.....	Teeswater	" 432, Hanover.....	Hanover
" 284, St. John's.....	Brussels	" 436, Burns.....	Hepworth
" 286, Wingham.....	Wingham		

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WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. A. W. Cryslor, Delhi.

No. 10, Norfolk.....	Simcoe	No. 149, Erie.....	Port Dover
" 37, King Hiram.....	Ingersoll	" 174, Walsingham.....	Port Rowan
" 43, King Solomon.....	Woodstock	" 178, Flattsville.....	Plattsville
" 68, St. John's.....	Ingersoll	" 181, Oriental.....	Port Burwell
" 76, Oxford.....	Woodstock	" 193, Scotland.....	Scotland
" 78, King Hiram.....	Tilsonburg	" 217, Frederick.....	Delhi
" 82, St. John's.....	Paris	" 237, Vienna.....	Vienna
" 104, St. John's.....	Norwich	" 250, Thistle.....	Embro
" 106, Burford.....	Burford	" 261, Oak Branch.....	Innerkip
" 108, Blenheim.....	Princeton	" 359, Vittoria.....	Vittoria
" 113, Wilson.....	Waterford		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Edward Burns, Elora.

No. 72, Alma.....	Galt	No. 279, New Hope.....	Hespeler
" 151, The Grand River.....	Berlin	" 295, Conestogo.....	Drayton
" 172, Ayr.....	Ayr	" 297, Preston.....	Preston
" 180, Speed.....	Guelph	" 306, Durham.....	Durham
" 200, St. Alban's.....	Mount Forest	" 314, Blair.....	Palmerston
" 203, Irvine.....	Elora	" 315, Clifford.....	Clifford
" 216, Harris.....	Orangeville	" 334, Prince Arthur.....	Arthur
" 257, Galt.....	Galt	" 347, Mercer.....	Fergus
" 258, Guelph.....	Guelph	" 361, Waverley.....	Guelph
" 262, Harriston.....	Harriston	" 421, Scott.....	Grand Valley
" 271, Wellington.....	Erin		

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. F. A. Latshaw, Dundas.

No. 6, The Barton.....	Hamilton	No. 166, Wentworth.....	Stoney Creek
" 27, Strict Observance.....	Hamilton	" 219, Credit.....	Georgetown
" 40, St. John's.....	Hamilton	" 243, St. George.....	St. George
" 45, Brant.....	Brantford	" 272, Seymour.....	Ancaster
" 57, Harmony.....	Binbrook	" 291, Dufferin.....	West Flamboro'
" 61, Acacia.....	Hamilton	" 321, Walker.....	Acton West
" 62, St. Andrew's.....	Caledonia	" 324, Temple.....	Hamilton
" 100, Valley.....	Dundas	" 357, Waterdown.....	Millgrove
" 121, Doric.....	Brantford	" 382, Doric.....	Hamilton
" 135, St. Clair.....	Milton	" 400, Oakville.....	Oakville
" 165, Burlington.....	Burlington		

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. F. D. Kent. M. D., Thornbury.

No. 79, Simcoe.....	Bradford	No. 266, Northern Light.....	Stayner
" 88, St. George's.....	Owen Sound	" 285, Seven Star.....	Alliston
" 90, Manito.....	Collingwood	" 304, Minerva.....	Stroud
" 96, Corinthian.....	Barrie	" 322, North Star.....	Owen Sound
" 137, Pythagoras.....	Meaford	" 333, Prince Arthur.....	Flesherton
" 192, Orillia.....	Orillia	" 348, Georgian.....	Penetanguishene
" 230, Kerr.....	Barrie	" 377, Lorne.....	Shelburne
" 234, Beaver.....	Clarksburg	" 385, Spry.....	Beeton
" 236, Manitoba.....	Cookstown	" 444, Nitetis.....	Creemore
" 249, Caledonian.....	Midland		

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. H. Crow, Welland.

No. 2, Niagara.....	Niagara	No. 221, Mountain.....	Thorold
" 7, Union.....	Grimsby	" 254, Clifton.....	Niagara
" 15, St. George's.....	St. Catharines	" 277, Seymour.....	Port Dalhousie
" 32, Amity.....	Dunnville	" 296, Temple.....	St. Catharines
" 35, St. John's.....	Cayuga	" 319, Hiram.....	Hagersville
" 103, Maple Leaf.....	St. Catharines	" 329, King Solomon.....	Jarvis
" 105, St. Mark's.....	Drummondville	" 337, Myrtle.....	Port Robinson
" 115, Ivy.....	Beamsville	" 338, Dufferin.....	Wellandport
" 168, Merritt.....	Welland	" 372, Palmer.....	Ridgeburg
" 169, Macnab.....	Port Colborne	" 373, Copestone.....	Welland
" 185, Enniskillen.....	York		

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT NO. 11. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, Toronto.

No. 22, King Solomon's.....Toronto	No. 292, Robertson.....Nobleton
" 54, Vaughan.....Maple	" 305, Humber.....Weston
" 65, Rehoboam.....Toronto	" 311, Blackwood.....Woodbridge
" 86, Wilson.....Toronto	" 326, Zetland.....Toronto
" 98, True Blue.....Bolton	" 346, Occident.....Toronto
" 118, Union.....Schomberg	" 356, River Park.....Streetsville
" 156, York.....North Toronto	" 369, Mimico.....Lambton Mills
" 229, Ionic.....Brampton	" 384, Alpha.....Toronto
" 247, Ashlar.....Toronto	" 426, Stanley.....Toronto Junction
" 265, Patterson.....Thornhill	" 438, Harmony.....Toronto

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT NO. 11a. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. F. G. Inwood, Toronto.

No. 16, St. Andrew's.....Toronto	No. 220, Zeredatha.....Uxbridge
" 23, Richmond.....Richmond Hill	" 269, Brougham Union.....Brougham
" 25, Ionic.....Toronto	" 316, Doric.....Toronto
" 75, St. John's.....Toronto	" 339, Orient.....Toronto
" 87, Markham Union.....Markham	" 343, Georgina.....Toronto
" 97, Sharon.....Sharon	" 354, Brock.....Cannington
" 99, Tuscan.....Newmarket	" 367, St. George.....Toronto
" 129, The Rising Sun.....Aurora	" 410, Zeta.....Toronto
" 136, Richardson.....Stouffville	" 424, Doric.....Pickering
" 218, Stevenson.....Toronto	" 430, Acacia.....East Toronto

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12. (24.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. John M. Shaw, M. D., Keene.

No. 26, Ontario.....Port Hope	No. 268, Verulam.....Bobcaygeon
" 30, Composite.....Whitby	" 270, Cedar.....Oshawa
" 31, Jerusalem.....Bowmanville	" 313, Clementi.....Lakefield
" 39, Mount Zion.....Brooklin	" 325, Orono.....Orono
" 66, Durham.....Newcastle	" 374, Keene.....Keene
" 77, Faithful Brethren.....Lindsay	" 375, Lorne.....Omemee
" 101, Corinthian.....Peterborough	" 398, Victoria.....Kirkfield
" 114, Hope.....Port Hope	" 406, The Spry.....Femelon Falls
" 139, Lebanon.....Oshawa	" 408, Murray.....Beaverton
" 145, J. B. Hall.....Millbrook	" 428, Fidelity.....Port Perry
" 155, Peterborough.....Peterborough	" 435, Havelock.....Havelock
" 223, Norwood.....Norwood	" 440, Arcadia.....Minden

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. W. Latimer, Belleville.

No. 11, Moira.....Belleville	No. 125, Golden Rule.....Campbellford
" 17, St. John's.....Cobourg	" 127, Frank.....Frankford
" 18, Prince Edward.....Picton	" 161, Percy.....Warkworth
" 29, United.....Brighton	" 164, Star in the East.....Wellington
" 38, Trent.....Trenton	" 215, Lake.....Ameliasburg
" 48, Madoc.....Madoc	" 222, Marmora.....Marmora
" 50, Consecon.....Consecon	" 239, Tweed.....Tweed
" 69, Stirling.....Stirling	" 283, Eureka.....Belleville
" 91, Colborne.....Colborne	" 401, Craig.....Deseronto
" 123, The Belleville.....Belleville	

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14. (14.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. A. Shaw, Kingston.

No. 3, The Anc't St. John's.....Kingston	No. 201, Leeds.....Gananoque
" 9, Union.....Napanee	" 212, Elysian.....Garden Island
" 92, Cataraqui.....Kingston	" 228, Prince Arthur.....Odessa
" 109, Albion.....Harrowsmith	" 253, Minden.....Kingston
" 119, Maple Leaf.....Bath	" 299, Victoria.....Centreville
" 146, Prince of Wales.....Newburgh	" 404, Lorne.....Tatnworth
" 157, Simpson.....Newboro'	" 441, Westport.....Westport

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ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT No. 15. (23.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. R. W. Watchorn, Merrickville.

No. 5, Sussex.....Brockville	No. 242, Macoy.....Mallorytown
" 14, True Britons.....Perth	" 256, Farran's Point...Farran's Pt
" 24, St. Francis.....Smith's Falls	" 320, Chesterville.....Chesterville
" 28, Mount Zion.....Kemptville	" 368, Salem.....Brockville
" 55, Merrickville.....Merrickville	" 370, Harmony.....Delta
" 74, St. James.....Bethel	" 383, Henderson West Winchester
" 85, Rising Sun.....Farmersville	" 387, Lansdowne.....Lansdowne
" 110, Central.....Prescott	" 389, Crystal Fountain.N Augusta
" 125, Cornwall.....Cornwall	" 416, Lyn.....Lyn
" 142, Excelsior.....Morrisburg	" 418, Maxville.....Maxville
" 143, Friendly Brothers..Iroquois	" 439, Alexandria.....Alexandria
" 207, Lancaster.....Lancaster	

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16. (18.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. W. A. Mackay, Renfrew.

No. 21a, St. John's.....Vanleek Hill	No. 177, The Builders'.....Ottawa
" 52, Dalhousie.....Ottawa	" 186, Plantagenet.....Plantagenet
" 58, Doric.....Ottawa	" 196, Madawaska.....Arnprior
" 63, St. John's...Carleton Place	" 209, Evergreen.....Lanark
" 122, Renfrew.....Renfrew	" 231, Lodge of Fidelity.....Ottawa
" 128, Pembroke.....Pembroke	" 264, Chaudiere.....Ottawa
" 147, Mississippi.....Almonte	" 371, Prince of Wales.....Ottawa
" 148, Civil Service.....Ottawa	" 405, Mattawa.....Mattawa
" 159, Goodwood.....Richmond	" 433, Bonnechere.....Eganville

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 17. (8.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. W. S. Beaver, Port Arthur.

No. 287, Shuniah.....Port Arthur	No. 417, Keewatin.....Keewatin
" 412, Key Stone...Sault Ste Marie	" 442, Dymont.....Thessalon
" 414, Pequonga.....Rat Portage	" 445, Lake of the Woods, Rat Portage
" 415, Fort William..Fort William	" 446, Granite.....Fort Frances

NIPISSING DISTRICT NO. 18. (9.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. N. Shearer, Huntsville.

No. 352, Granite.....Parry Sound	No. 423, Strong.....Sundridge
" 360, Muskoka.....Bracebridge	" 427, Nickel.....Sudbury
" 376, Unity.....Huntsville	" 434, Algonquin.....Emsdale
" 409, Golden Rule...Gravenhurst	443, Powassan.....Powassan
" 420, Nipissing.....North Bay	

NOT ATTACHED TO ANY DISTRICT.

No. 293, The Royal Solomon Mother, Jerusalem, Palestine.

RECAPITULATION.

Erie	District No. 1.....	22 Lodges.
St. Clair	" 2.....	20 "
London	" 3.....	26 "
South Huron	" 4.....	15 "
North Huron	" 5.....	19 "
Wilson	" 6.....	21 "
Wellington	" 7.....	21 "
Hamilton	" 8.....	21 "
Georgian	" 9.....	19 "
Niagara	" 10.....	21 "
Toronto West	" 11.....	20 "
Toronto East	" 11a.....	20 "
Ontario	" 12.....	24 "
Prince Edward	" 13.....	19 "
Frontenac	" 14.....	14 "
St. Lawrence	" 15.....	23 "
Ottawa	" 16.....	18 "
Algoma	" 17.....	8 "
Nipissing	" 18.....	9 "
Unattached	.....	1 "
Total.....		361

EXPULSIONS BY GRAND LODGE, 1899.

No. 82—C. M. Foley. 96—S. J. Sanford. 193—J. Zimmerman. 332—J. G. Yeman. 376—F. G. Pokorney.

SUSPENSIONS FOR U. M. C., 1898-99.

No. 82—C M Foley. 86—Thos Sargant. 106—E Turner. 289—Geo Murch. 326—Thos Sargant. 339—Hy Tolhurst. 348—W E Gillespie. 384—Geo S Booth. 410—Thos Sargant.

SUSPENSIONS FOR N. P. D., 1898-99.

No. 3—D F Armstrong, Wm Braid, O A Horning, Geo H Mathews, Jas W Ross, Thos Smith, W F Wood, Geo Winn, sr., J J Millman, Ed Murphy. 7—A Baird, J W Duvall, J P Gibson, V H Carpenter. 11—S Thompson, W Schuster, T Klungebell. 14—T Turnbull, J A Laurie, G F Barrie. 17—Geo E Stokes, G Carry, Henry Walton, Wm Mason. 20—Jas McMartin, S H Milling, E L Eddy, D A Donaldson. 22—J Gairdner, J Gordon, R Lawrence, A Milster, T Pinkey, G McK Southerland, D T Secord. 24—W Pratt, W Warwick. 27—H G Frazz. 38—J E Baker, J T McKenzie, J F Spaulsbury, P Bolton, Jas Skelton. 40—J H Hutchinson, J E Morris, J J Spence. 42—J C Derby, W C Noble, W Joiner, Robt Adams. 43—A Leishman, C J Hollester, J Lawson, E N Fremelin, F M Baldwin, C H Gunn, C H Stephenson. 46—M Michelson. 50—J P Stapleton, Robt J Morrow, R S Jones, J A Vandewater. 54—A Newton, A L Skeele, J S Kinnee, Jos Thompson, Jno A McDonald. 55—Geo W Easton, R Brumbridge, J J Nevins, T H Wickwire. 57—J A Jackson, W Waldon. 58—J Bush, C F Davis, H A McVeen, H T F Moore, W Powley, R T Shillington, R Surtee, A F Thomas. 61—J V Hedenburg, R Mackie, Wm Ford. 62—A L Aubin. 64—Wm Hill, J D Atkins, W H Boomer, E W Greaves, R Montgomery. 69—T Searls, J Tulloch, J N Palmer, J Duncan, J Herity, A Chard, jr., A J Bird, G Kerr, M Thomas, C Lott, A E Judd, S White. 72—T McGivern, A Oliver, T A Rutherford, J C Veitch. 73—T G Coleman, W Steele. 75—J D Brack, W J Fielding, W Lee, W J Somerville, J H Markle. 76—Geo. McGregor. 77—J Sheridan, W H Irwin. 78—L F H Baldwin, H. Snider, A. L. Scott. 83—F Woodward, F W Meek, R H Matthews. 85—W H Johnson, A E McLean, W M Webster. 88—G T Boyle, R Brandon, W J Creighton, J B Taylor, H A Knight, J F Findlay, J Lilburn, A Gibbons, W H Lowder. 91—J Kerr, J E McDonald. 92—Thos Moore, W D Stanford. 96—G Knight, W S A Hartley, F H Lauder. 98—Chris Noble, S Sherdown, R Claridge, S Jefferson, J Alexander. 99—J H Millard. 103—H Braund, W F Watts, A E Hume, D Gillies, J B Gillespie, W Elliott, W Brookman, AW Strachan, Wm Muir. 104—S B McKay. 106—J A Ballard, A E Kennedy. 108—L S Kenney, J Western. 110—A Jordon, E S Lane, T H Macdonald, JW Throop. 116—D T Crawford, J McPherson. 121—Jos C Atkinson, R D Park, B C Wheeler. 122—R Booth. 123—S F Jones, T J Spafford, C G Row, C W Vandervoort, H Bull, B L Hargrove. 125—W Pott, A Woodward, J C N Gosling. 126—R Latimer. 127—G M Sanburn, T H Brenton, G Sanburn. 135—W J Proud. 140—G Adcock. 142—J A Carter, L N Howard, J N Logan. 143—T Dillon, S Learne, S Hunter, T H Hunter, John S Carstairs. 144—Alex Christie, Jas Greer, W P Hubbard, C F McLeod. 145—J W Fisher, R H Nesbitt, J W Dawson. 148—W A Cross, E F Hubbell. 154—J Brooks, W E Hooper, Wm McLeod, Jno McEwen, Jas Sutton, Geo. Shaw, CM Webb, Geo Duffield, J D Shipley. 156—T M Elliott, W Fox, W H Farrow, T Moore, A H Badgerow. 158—Wm Middlemiss. 162—Jno W Green, I Elliott. 169—A Furry. 172—A H Kay, D S Brown, Wm Mitchell, Geo Roberts, Wm Campbell, J T Raker, Robt Fernley, H T Walder, Wm Lovett. 178—Wm Baldwin, John A Smith, J Wilson, E Bristow, D A Hoggarth. 190—Jas Kirk. 193—D G Adair, D A Marlatt, C E Day, E B Hall, J D Clement, A M Malcolm, John Malcolm. 194—John Scott, John Holmes, Isaac Erb. 195—F Barnard, L O Lawrenson. 200—D M Martin. 201—G Bartlett, W L Livingston. H C Atkinson, Hy Clarke, C J Clapp, F Tobias, A Edwards, J S Watt, Geo Bennett, Wm McKenzie, C H Hubbell, W N Rogers, J F Stoliker. 203—J Jacob. 209a—J A Santer, J J Lynch, A Carrothers, A E Whiteacre, J E Thompson, Thos Carneill, C Reid, A M Foster. 212—J Hazlet, J Home, D Keeley, F K Rogney. 220—M M Dafeo, J D Walker, N Carmichael, J T Elliot. 221—J T Winslow, P. S Middough, Jas Weeks, A. Dickie, 224—W A Thomson, J S McKay, Geo. A. Pollock, W. A. Ross. 225—L E Rice, H Jack. 228—Jos Woodruff. 232—J C Schlubauf, M McFarlane, F McFarlane, H G Gusterson, A McFarlane, A H G Gunn, T Robinson, N Talman, N Milligan, J McKay. 238—B Williamson, H Mustard, A Menery, V W Shirley. 243—M Truesdale, W Henderson, S Atmore. 247—E L M Laine, Jno Whitaker, F J W sley. 253—C McCormick, W M Waldron. 256—G C Wagner, G W Kirk, W T Graham. 258—A James, T W Whiting, A Chatfield. 260—J Peat, R J Polly. 261—R McFarlane. 265—Wm Lubbock. 266—F Campbell, A Crawford, R Henderson, J E Doner, A L Murphy, F Clark, R H Coleman. 267—C W Cunningham, A Dollin. 269—F A Beaton, S B Lynde, C J Brodie, A B Collins, W N Souden, W B Turner. 276—J Pennington. 277—

Thos Read, R Read, M Sinnett, B Gregory, W H Andrews, G H Andrews, Hy Robert, sr., I Ismond. 284—R Williams. 286—E S Ambrose, W H Mainprize. 287—G R Thompson, C A McRae. 294—J E Shaw. 297—John McCormack. 302—W Armstrong. 304—G McKinley. 305—W Pears, J W Humphreys. 306—C Caldwell, F C Hamilton, A McKinnon. 312—J Scott, D. Dobie, W. Ralph, W J McDonnell, G Mitchell, F Armstrong, T B West, C Chubb. 315—C H Peterson. 316—C A Tom, W G Kennedy, W G Bruce, J M Kennedy. 320—W C Beaman. 322—A McLeod, J C Grier, H. W. Robertson, C Robertson, W McClelland, J C Atkinson, J Oatt, R Campbell, R Reed, W Craig, G S Souther, R Malcom, H P Adair, P W Sabastin, J A Whitesides, W Robinson, T H Hall. 324—E B Wyman, W F Broughton, R Stark, W Martin. 325—W Thompson. 329—G A Vail, J A Kenney, A Fisher. 330—A Bodley. 334—F T Allan. 336—Wm E Lee. 337—O E Anderson, Wm Burns, Jno Drennen. 339—P Hill, J. Gibb, W. H. Conron, Wm McKay, J C Dunlop, W N McLatchie, G R Moore. A J Jackson, E J Edwards, Thos Fletcher, W S Carruthers, S Matthews, W Emmond, D Hunter, sr., D Hunter, jr., W H Compton, W J Gilbert, W A Verneer, A D Fisher, J C Tiet, D W Waddell, W T Rogers. 341—Jos Cunningham. D E McLaren, Geo Warder, Robt Gray, Eph McArty, Jas McDermott, P Brown. 343—J Winfield, W J W Crawford. 344—E T Shaw, A Carson. 346—S P Aropanski, J Gourley, J Fox, J McKee, G A Shields, S Tobias, A G Wahal. 348—W M Thompson, J J Whalen. 352—C L White, Thos Irwin, Chas Stewart. 354—A Toohey. 357—E E English, Thos Attridge, L J Mulloch. 360—E Goldthrop. 361—W Douglas, H M Williams, F B Fenwick, W M Stanley, D Martin, W McFarguhar. 362—Neil McDougald. 368—H F Bullin, W R Gardner, R T Kenny. 370—P K Hill, L H Washburn, C C Wiltse, E C Collinson, C Dawson, J Roddick, S Robinson. 371—F Gilliott, F W Mooney, F H Satchell, J J Milligan, W R Stroud. 372—Jas Stirton, H E Fite, 375—A Toole, S Faulkner, S Bailey, T O Page. 379—Wm Johnston. 382—Wm Cobden, C R Waterman, W R W Graham, A V Williams. 384—H L Sweet, F L Cowley, A E Bassingthwaite. 386—John Dykes. 387—J R Boaprey, A E Sliter, J Steacy. 389—J Willoughby, W Pear. 391—J W Coyne, G Wright, Jas Quimby, J Cochrane, Thos L Butler. 394—C H Cawthrop, A Sutherland. 395—J A McKay, M Creighton, C F Johnston. 398—C G Griffin, Alex Gibson, W H Johnston. 401—S B Brown, S C D Baker, G Gordon. 406—W McKelvey, M Brown. 408—H Musgrove. 410—D S Gordon. 413—J Bartley, D Kennedy, J Wands, A Sinclair, E R Shaw. 416—R Lane. 421—T J Hill. 427—H A West, C Ford, W R Griffith, F Addyman, J S Walker, C H Clendinning, A McNabb, H A Blanchard, J McKenzie, C Brouse, J Jouse, F J McFarlane, S Rondeau, A Paul, A W Watson, C J Amey, W Blewitt, A Ferris, H F McQuire, J E Mullin, Jos Austin, Jas Burton, A C McDouald. 430—R Malcolm, H Tutt. 433—E Clark.

DEATHS, 1898-99

No. 2—H D Claus, 30th January, '99; D Servos, 23rd May, '99. 3—Richard Bunt, 30th August, '98; Thos F Taylor, 21st Dec, '98; W Ferguson, 27th Jan, '99; G W Amey, 29th March, '99; J Fortescue, 15th June, '99. 5—Geo Campbell, 6th July, '98. 6—Geo Russell, 27th June, '97; Jno McKay, 8th July, '97; A Lockie, 21st July, '97; E E Loosely, 6th Sept, '97; Wm Morden, 3rd Dec, '97; S S Malcomson, no date; G Gallagher, 6th Dec, '97; Jno Patterson, 5th May, '98; J W Murton, Oct, '98; C Magill, Dec, '98; T. W Leggo, Dec, '98; Rev J Gilray, Aug, '98; Arch McCoy, 25th March, '99; A J Hubbard, no date. 7—G H Vandyke, 2nd May, '99. 9—E K Bowen, 2nd May, '99; P Phalen, 29th May, '99. 10—E G Wells, 31st Oct, '98. 11—J R Gerow, 31st May, '99. 14—J H Young, 27th Jan, '99. 15—J W McNeil, 23rd Aug, '98. 16—Thos Pells, 4th July, '98; Fred Ody, Aug, '98; C Nicol, 1st Oct, '98; F Richardson, 11th Oct, '98. 17—Chas G McCallum, 20th Aug, '98. 18—B H. Noxon, 4th Dec, '98. 20—Wm Gray, 5th March, '98; John Wright, 1st June, '98; John McDonald, 20th Sept, '98; J H Wilson, 15th Jan, '99; A K Melbourne, 15th April, '99. 22—A R Fraser, 4th Sept, '98; R F Higgins, 18th Jan, '99; Thos Hall, 21st April, '99; Jos Bennett, 31st May, '99. 24—E Chalmers, 11th April, '99. 25—F Richardson, 11th Oct, '98; S W Farrell, 27th Oct, '98. 26—R T Corbett, 7th Oct, '98; 27—Samuel Woodley, 6th Nov, '98; R Raw, 4th Jan, '99; J M Rogerson, 8th Jan, '99; R L Featherston, 21st March, '99. 29—Wm Coyle, 20th Nov, '98. 30—G H Dartnell, 2nd Feb, '99. 31—L Quick, 3rd Feb, '99. 32—L A Congdon, 25th Feb, '99. 34—Hy Sharp, 18th Oct, '98. 38—M L Burlingham, Jan, 24th, '99. 39—C C Allems, 28th Sept, '97; W Pearson, 1st April, '99; J Arnott, 30th April, '97. 40—W E Glenie, 5th July, '98; R M Kenny, 3rd Aug, '98; R Ralston, 1st Oct, '98; J W Murton, 24th Oct, '98; T. E McDougall, 24th Nov, '98; M W Attwood, 6th Feb, '99. 41—E E Harris, 23rd Feb, '99; W G Fox, 24th March, '99. 42—Jno Blanch, April, '98; John W Cryer, July, '98; Thos W Harrison, Dec, '98. 43—J T Wilson, Dec 30th, '98. 44—Ed Wardell, 29th Oct, '98; Jno C Caughill, 3rd Dec, '98; Alex Mason, 21st Oct, '98. 45—D McCollon, 9th March, '99; G Pike, 8th June, '99. 46—John D McDonald, 1st Dec, '99. 47—Wm Bradshaw, 8th Sept, '98; Jos Park, 31st May, '99; S Chevalier, 23rd April, '99. 48—W Wiggins, 27th Feb, '98; E Mouncey, 17th April '97. 54—Chas H Keffer, 16th Nov, '98. 55—Josiah

Payne, 8th Dec. '98; E H Whitmarsh, 11th April, '99. 56—A Crawford, 7th Sept. '98; C Barrie, 25th Oct. '98; J H McMaster, 18th Dec. '98. 58—Jas Smeaton, 21st Oct. '98; C Holmes, 7th Jan. '99. 61—G C Morrison, 20th Feb. '99; S J Stratton, 9th June, '99. 63—J Rushworth, 50th Jan. '98; W W Cherry, 13th Aug. '98; Geo A Wilson, no date; J McAiton, 20th May, '99. 64—Arthur Jeffery, 20th April, '98; J H Griffith, 30th Oct. '98. 65—John Davy, 9th Aug. '98; Matt Evans, 8th Dec. '98; F Sole, 12th June, '99; G Hemmingway, 19th June, '99. 69—D Austin, 19th Oct. '98; W J Kingston, 24th Oct. '98. 75—T Sanderson, 1st July, '98; F Richardson, 11th Oct. '98. 76—D H Hunter, 21st May, '98. 77—Thos Richardson, 1st Aug. '97. 78—Thos Wright, 10th Oct. '98; C McDonald, 1st March, '99. 84—Jas Pollock, 28th Aug. '98. 85—D Mansell, 27th Jan. '99. 86—R H Caiger, 21st Feb. '99. 88—D W We ks, 23rd Oct. '98; W R Armstrong, 10th April, '99. 91—R B Scott, 5th March, '99; W Errington, 13th May, '99. 92—H Brahme, 5th M reb, '98; Jno Gallaher, 12th Aug. '98. 93—D Collins, 21st Sept. '98; W M McKibbin, 25th Sept. '98; R Farquharson, 14th Jan. '99; C R Barker, 22nd March, '99. 94—Wm Brownell, 17th April, '99; W M Berry, 26th Oct. '98. 96—R E Lehmann, July, '98. 99—E McCormick, 11th Feb. '98. 101—John O'Donnell, 26th Feb. '99. 103—J W Grote, 29th Jan. '98. 104—D W Miller, 19th June, '99. 105—D Morningstar, 27th April, '99. 106—T S McIntee, 2nd Feb. '99. 108—John Hall, 27th April, '99. 109—C H Godfrey, 3rd July, '98. 110—M Dowsley, 19th May, '99. 114—E Budge, 24th March, '99. 115—Jas Simpson, 2nd Aug. '98. 121—Chas L Smith, 22nd Dec. '98; Geo D Calder, 23rd Dec. '98. 122—W J O'Hara, 6th May, '99. 123—L F Simps n, 13th Aug. '98; Chas Hudson, 13th Sept. '98. 126—H H McMechin, Dec. '98. 128—Thos Mansell, 22nd May, '99. 129—T W Graham, 12th Nov. '98. 133—Wm Brooks, 21st Dec. '98. 135—D W Campbell, 2nd April, '96; J A Hornick, 11th April, '98. 137—C F Snelgrove, 22nd Feb. '98. 139—Wm King, 16th April, '98; Robt T Kirkpatrick, 23rd Sept. '98. 104—T E Moore, 9th Feb. '99. 141—Jas Begg, 11th June, '98. 142—J S Marselis, 2nd Oct. '98. 104—Jas Green, 12th July, '98; J H Mock, 28th May, '99. 146—P Johnston, 10th March, '99; P Phalen, 29th May, '99. 148—A N McNeil, 16th Nov. '98. 151—L B Clemens, 17th March, '99. 154—Wm Hutchins, 6th July, '98; J. Edwards, 5th Aug. '98. 155—W C McCrear, 16th Jan. '99. 156—Jno McCarter, Oct. '98; J J Mannell, '99. 157—E Gelday, 23rd Oct. '98. 159—W Cowan, 7th Jan. '99. 164—John Badgley, 13th Dec. '98. 165—Samuel M Durkee, 28th Nov. '98. 168—W W Garden, 29 h Jan. '99; J C Sennett, 13th April, '99. 170—Geo Ewing, 4th Sept. '98; C E St. C Simpson, 30th Dec. '98. 180—J Inglis, 2nd April, '99; A McIntyre, 25th May, '99. 186—F Kains, 4th Sept. '98. 192—J B Longford, 8th Oct. '98. 195—G N Sagers, 19th Feb. '99. 201—Geo Kelly, 23rd July, '98. 209a—A S Abbott, 5th Jan. '98; W J Clarke, 23rd Jan. '98. 216—C Robinson, 17th Oct. '98; H D Fraser, 17th Feb. '98. 218—Geo Doughty, 13th Aug. '98; Wm Lunne s, 14th Nov. '98; C H Waterman, 8th April, '99. 219—B Williams, 22nd Aug. '98. 221—R Swazier, 14th April, '99; W Winslow, 15th May, '99. 230—J G Lawson, Sept. '98. 232—D G Ruthven, 10th April, '97; H G Gusterson. 234—Rich H Wright, 15th Feb. '98. 242—Chaney Root, 13th July, '98; R L Booth, 22nd July, '98. 247—R U Todd, 5th Sept. '98; Jno S McDonald, 9th Sept. '98; D H B Phillip, 30th Jan. '99. 249—J J Dudley, 31st May, '99. 254—J Woodrow, 7th Dec. '98; J Scotland, Jan. '99; A B Brown, 8th Feb. '99. 255—J M Shaw, 27th July, '98; Jas Chapple, 5th Nov. '98. 256—A Duffin, 7th Jan. '99. 257—T Cowan, 14th Oct. '98; T To d, 11th Jan. '99. 268—L W Ross, 24th Oct. '98. 270—A S Rundle, 1st Jan. '98. 271—H C Dahl, 9th April, '99. 272—H Shaver, 14th July, '98. 274—J G Macpherson, 22nd April, '99. 276—Jas Ness, 19th Nov. '99. 283—C E Lyons, 21st Nov. '98; W L Hamilton, 18th April, '99. 285—J E Rodgers, 9th July, '98. 287—Jno C Hasking, 14th Aug. '98. 289—Duncan McMurphy, 22nd Jan. '98; Donald McNeil, 7th July, '98. 290—Hy Tufflemire, 13th Dec. '98. 291—D McMillan, 12th Aug. '98. 292—J Hogan, 14th Feb. '99. J Cherry, 13th June, '99. 294—J P McDonald, 2nd Feb. '98. 299—Hugh Rankin, 15th Oct. '98; M Stormes, Feb. '99. 302—R M Smith, 12th Aug. '98. 305—M H Keefer, 22nd Dec. '98; W L Hutchinson, 24th Dec. '98; R J Pugolas, 22nd Feb. '99. 306—E J McClocklin, 16th Feb. '99. 311—Jas McMillen, 17th April, '98. 322—H Robinson, 29th Dec. '98. 324—John W Murton, 24th Oct. '98; J A Mullen, 22nd Feb. '99. 326—A Parker, 29th July, '98; J T Jones, 29th April, '99. 327—A A Munro, 4th Jan. '99. 332—D McKinnon. 333—W H Flesher, 1st Aug. '98. 334—J W Fraser, 6th March, '99. 339—J B A Daley, 8th Sept. '98; John H Ayre, 13th Sept. '98; Jno Chisholm, 31st Oct. '98; H Jones, 3rd Jan. '99. 341—J J Clarke, 7th Oct. '98; N McInnes, 27th March, '99. 343—T B Bentlv, 14th June, '98; H T Tinning, 14th Jan. '99. 346—A Clarkson, 19th Jan. '99; T Newman, 14th Sept. '98; J Currie, 30th Aug. '98. 347—J Beattie, 21st March, '97; R Wilson, 2nd Dec. '97; W Ritchie, 24th Oct. '98. 352—T A Broadbent, 27th June, '98. 361—J C Smith, 25th July, '98; A Strachan, 21st June, '99. 367—J Gillet, 8th Sept. '98; P Kinnear, 28th Feb. '99; D S Anderson, 23rd May, '99. 368—Alf Reynolds, 15th July, '98; W C Wright, 6 April, '99; J F Wood, 14th March, '99. 372—T C Wagner, 8th June, '99. 373—R A Page, 6th July, '98. 374—K Mark, 21st Oct. '98; W C McCrear, 16th Jan. '99. 376—E R Reed, 6th May, '99. 377—Jas Calhoun, 4th Nov. '98; J Madill, 19th April, '98.

379—Isaac Nicholson, Oct, '98. 380—A C Stewart, 23rd July, '98; J Milne, 19th Oct, '98; W A Westcott, 25th Oct, '98, W Brodison, 4th Nov, '98. 382—C E Aikins, 19th Nov, '98; R D Menary, 24th Dec, '98. 386—J T Taylor, 3rd Aug, '98. 387—J W Taylor, 11th Aug, '97; C S Montford, 27th July, '98; D McNeil, 9th July, '98. 391—P Ridley, 23rd Nov, '98; E H Ridley, 25th Nov, '98; Peter Cameron, 20th May, '99. 400—R K Chisholm, 27th Feb, '99; P Doty, 26th May, '99. 401—Jos Carswell, 18th Oct, '98. 403—Robt McGuire, 9th Aug, '98; Geo Shanks, 12th Aug, '98. 410—J W Ellis, 19th Jan, '99. 412—John Boyd, 27th June, '98; Wm H Stevens, date unknown. 413—W H Halliday, 27th Jan, '99. J G Stewart, 26th Dec, '97. 416—A McLean, 1st Sept, '98. 422—J G McPherson, 22nd April, '99. 426—J A Bull, 15th May, '99. 428—J Jewett, 14th June, '99. 430—J M Torrance, 31st Nov, '98. 434—A W H Chowne, 20th April, '99; R D Fair, 20th April, '99. 435—F G Drewitt, 10th Dec, '98. 438—S Graham, 1st Nov, '98. 440—B J M Freer, 13th Aug, '98. 442—John Boyd, 27th June, '98.

RESTORATIONS. 1898-99.

No. 3—John McLaurin. 5—B R Woods, Geo A Allen, W Y Dockrill. 6—Wm Fair, Jas W Ross. 9—S Gibson, Wm Templeton. 11—Wm Thompson. 14—C B Taylor. 15—H Holt, J Sisteron. 22—J McEwen, J Templeman. 23—Jas Reynolds. 24—A McPhail. 27—T C Allardice, R Pike. 29—J M Webster. 34—J T Griffin. 35—C W Colter. 38—A H Potter. 40—Wm Fawcette. 41—L Mott. 43—J S Permenter, M. W Yeo, J Anderson, J White, S Loeb, J Osborne, J C Watters, R C West, D. M. Perry. 46—W D Graham. 47—Robt Cauldwell, F Shaw, A Robertson. 48—S L Golding, S A Chambers. 55—J B Arnold. 65—J W Cheeseworth. 68—J Miller, W Clark. 69—J C Wilson. 73—J G Coleman, J Newman, M. Turnbull, W W Steele, J W Purdy. 75—H F Squires. 76—T H Groff, J H Brown. 81—N Vroom, R Cade. 82—J H Clegg. 83—J H Blain, F Woodward, J H Lee, H M Wilson, H H Sands. 84—W J O Malloch. 87—J Simpson. 88—J Sinclair. W Miller. 91—R B Scott, G Ceburn. 92—William Gibb. 93—Thos J Stewart, D Kennedy. 94—W H Farr, A Hepburn. 98—W B Willoughby. 103—T Sanderson. 104—W F Kay. 113—Geo Doughty, T D Duncombe. 127—Wm Keer. 131—John Jones. 135—C E Flatt, H. Kaen, J Hume. 139—Jas Gall. 141—Ed Siegel. 143—J S Carstairs, Samuel Learne, T Dillon. 144—F W Bailey. 145—W L MacKenzie. 154—J D Shipley, John McEwen, G Duffield, G Shaw, C M Webb. 157—W Crozier. 164—P C Vanhorn. 168—W W Wilson, J J Yokom, M. Minnis, J L Strawn. 174—Geo Stewart. 180—James Phillips, D. McIntosh, J S Moffatt. 192—E F Cook, A Reid, S S Robinson, C J Smartman. 194—Isaac Erb. 197—Wm Smythe, A. Cameron. 209a—J S Lester, A Bremner. 215—W M Philips, A W Young, W Staunton. 216—C Campbell, E Thompson. 220 W C Van Nostrand. 221—J N Stewart. 223—S P Ford, E E McKay. 225—L E Rice. 242—T McMillan. 247—E L M Laine. 250—J G Anderson. 257—R Fairgrieve. 260—A McColl, J W Ferguson. 263—H Gage, J Davis. 265—Andrew Miller, 266—F Clark, R. H Coleman. 274—M F Purnaville, F S Bounsall, Thos McColl, L S Plummer, J M Soper. 276—J G Allon, J Pellon. 290—Jas Rolison. 292—P T McCallum. 297—C Clare. 302—E R Wilson. 312—G McFarland, F McLennan, C E Nightingale. 230—E W Cameron. 321—Neil Keith. 324—W M Davinson. 330—Richard Johnston. 333—A Neilson, R Neilson, D D Wright. 334—R T Stephenson, G A Mitchell. 336—Jas McKerracher. 339—Jos. Trebilcock, M A Harper, A MacLinn, T Walters, C Sheppard, E C Lowman, W Moss. 344—Peter Spring. 346—N B Hare. 352—L P Quebec. 354—L L Patterson, J Davidson, Robt Way. 357—Sol F Ryckman. 364—Jas Thompson. 367—J Marshall, D Craig. 369—T W Smith, E O Winters, W Tomlinson. 371—H Leitch, J Hyman, T W Hodgins, A T G McVeity. 372—Jas Sherton. 373—T Mains. 377—Robt Hartley. 380—Jno Boyd, A R Pingel, Wm Hunter, Ed Gardner. 383—A S Shaver, A D Wishart. 384—R W Purvis, Wm. Fahey, F L Cowley, A E Bassingthwaite. 388—J H Patrick, G Lipsitt. 391—Thos Shipley. 392—B Schram. 396—Robt Davies, S W Jennings. 399—D D Yorke, J A Robins. 400—C B Patterson. 401—C J Becker. 402—L E Shepherd. 405—Wm Hogarth, C F Tucke. 410—J O Orr, H A Yuile, A F Dixon, W F Lancaster. 415—E A Carpenter. 416—Wm H Burns. 418—J D Robinson. 427—Chas Ford, Jas Hughes. 430—J Coleridge. 435—Wm Coon, Fred G Drewitt.

In Memoriam.

Most Worshipful Brother

BYRON L. CARR

Representative near the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

Died 22nd April, 1899.

Most Worshipful Brother

ANDREW BUNTON

Representative near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

Died 18th June, 1897.

Right Worshipful Brother

RAMON MARTI BOADA

Representative near the Grand Lodge of the
Island of Cuba.

Died—

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

GEORGE F. H. DARTNELL

Past Master of Composite Lodge No. 30, Whitby ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Ontario District.

Died 2nd February, 1899.

Right Worshipful Brother

W. L. HAMILTON

Past Master of Eureka Lodge No. 283, Belleville ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Prince Edward District.

Died 18th April, 1899.

Right Worshipful Brother

E. G. WELLS

Past Master of Norfolk Lodge No. 10, Simcoe ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Wilson District.

Died 31st October, 1898

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

DAVID COLLINS

Past Master of Northern Light Lodge No. 93, Kincardine;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of North Huron District.

Died 22nd September, 1898.

Right Worshipful Brother

FRANCIS RICHARDSON

Past Master of Ionic Lodge No. 25, Toronto;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Toronto District.

Died 11th October, 1898.

Right Worshipful Brother

WILLIAM WADDINGTON

Past Master of Cataragui Lodge No. 92, Kingston;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of St. Lawrence District.

Died 28th May, 1899.

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

JOHN WALTER MURTON

Past Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 40, Hamilton.
Past Grand Senior Warden.

Died 24th October, 1898.

Right Worshipful Brother

L. A. CONGDON

Past Master of Amity Lodge, No. 32, Dunnville.
Grand Registrar.

Died 25th February, 1899.

Very Worshipful Brother

JAMES M. ROGERSON

Past Master of Strict Observance Lodge, No. 27, Hamilton.
Past Assistant Grand Organist.

Died 8th January, 1899.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

F. ROWLAND

Past Master of Cataraqui Lodge, No. 92, Kingston.
Past Grand Supt. of Works.

Died 14th January, 1899.

Very Worshipful Brother

JOHN McCARTER

Past Master of York Lodge, No. 156, North Toronto.
Past Grand Pursuivant.

Died 17th October, 1898.

Very Worshipful Brother

C. McDONALD, M. D.

Past Master of King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, Tilsonburg.
Grand Steward.

Died 1st March, 1899.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

B. G. FREER

Past Master of Northern Light Lodge, No. 93, Kincardine.
Past Grand Steward.

Died 13th August, 1898.

Very Worshipful Brother

JOHN HALL

Past Master of Blenheim Lodge, No. 108, Princeton.
Past Grand Steward.

Died 27th April, 1899.

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1899-1900.

THE GRAND MASTER.

M. W. Bro. E. T. MaloneToronto

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

R. W. Bro. R. B. HungerfordLondon

THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. J. T. McKillop	Wardsville	Erie	District No. 1
" R. Coghlan	Wyoming	St. Clair	" 2
" George F. Morris	London	"	" 3
" John H. Reid	Seaforth	South Huron	" 4
" Geo. Landerkin, M. D.	Hanover	North Huron	" 5
" A. W. Crysler	Delhi	Wilson	" 6
" Edward Burns	Elora	Wellington	" 7
" F. A. Latshaw	Dundas	Hamilton	" 8
" Fred. D. Kent, M. D.	Thornbury	Georgian	" 9
" J. H. Crow	Welland	Niagara	" 10
" W. D. McPherson	Toronto	Toronto W.	" 11
" F. G. Inwood	Toronto	Toronto E.	" 11a
" John M. Shaw, M. D.	Keene	Ontario	" 12
" W. Latimer	Belleville	Prince Edward	" 13
" A. Shaw	Kingston	Frontenac	" 14
" Robt. W. Watchorn	Merrickville	St. Lawrence	" 15
" W. A. Mackay	Renfrew	Ottawa	" 16
" W. S. Beaver	Port Arthur	Algoma	" 17
" J. N. Shearer	Huntsville	Nipissing	" 18

THE GRAND WARDENS.

R. W. Bro. H. P. MacdonellOttawa
 " J. R. StuartStratford

THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

R. W. Bro. Rev. Robt. Campbell, D. D.Renfrew

THE GRAND TREASURER.

M. W. Bro. Hugh MurrayHamilton

THE GRAND REGISTRAR.

R. W. Bro. Thomas M. DavisHamilton

THE GRAND SECRETARY.

R. W. Bro. J. J. MasonHamilton

V. W. Bro. E. F. Clark, M. P.	Toronto	Grand Senior Deacon.
" E. T. Essery	London	Grand Junior Deacon.
" C. H. Witthum	Hepworth	Grand Supt. of Works.
" John Nicolle	Kingston	Grand Dir. of Ceremonies.
" Alfred Jones	W. Flamboro'	Asst. Grand Secretary.
" Frederick Millman	Woodstock	Asst. Grand Dir. of Ceremonies
" N. W. Cleary	Renfrew	Grand Sword Bearer.
" J. W. Hart, M. D.	Huntsville	Grand Organist.
" J. J. Farley	Belleville	Asst. Grand Organist.
" Jas. P. Boles	Ingersoll	Grand Pursuivant.

GRAND STEWARDS.

V. W. Bro. J. E. Biddle	Port Rowan	V. W. Bro. W. J. Hallett	Barrie
" D. H. Currie	Rat Portage	" F. Holwell	Baden
" R. J. Munro	Lakefield	" John Anderson, Camlachie	
" H. H. Wells	Prescott	" E. Aitchison	Wardsville
" N. Shafley	Wellandport	" Thomas Shaw	Hespeler
" Jas. MacFarlane	Toronto.	" E. M. Carleton	Toronto

THE GRAND STANDARD BEARERS.

V. W. Bro. John ParsellNorway | V. W. Bro. W. C. FitzgeraldLondon

THE GRAND TYLER.

W. Bro. John Robertson, London.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, 1899-1900.

PRESIDENT.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, Deputy Grand MasterLondon.

VICE-PRESIDENT.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Q. C.Lindsay

BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, G. M.	Toronto
" A. A. Stevenson, P. G. M.	Montreal
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" Kivas Tully, "	Toronto
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R.W. Bro. R. L. Patterson	Nevada	R.W. Bro. Frank Bell	C. N. Noteware	Carson City
V.W. Bro. J. A. Cowan	New Hampshire	R.W. Bro. Ira A. Chase	Geo. Percy Cleaves	Concord
M.W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q.C.	New Jersey	M.W. Bro. Geo. W. Fortmeyer	T. H. R. Redway	Trenton
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M.W. Bro. Hugh Murray	New York	W. Bro. Geo. W. Miller	E. M. L. Ehlers	New York
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R.W. Bro. J. S. Dewar	North Dakota	R.W. Bro. Charles E. Jackson	F. J. Thompson	Fargo
R.W. Bro. L. G. Jarvis	Ohio	M.W. Bro. Chas. A. Woodward	J. H. Bromwell	Cincinnati
	Oklahoma		James S. Hunt	Stillwater
R.W. Bro. David Taylor	Oregon	R.W. Bro. Donald Mackay	James F. Robinson	Engene
	Pennsylvania		Wm. A. Sinn	Philadelphia
R.W. Bro. Henry A. Collins	Rhode Island	M.W. Bro. Geo. H. Kenyon	Edwin Baker	Providence
R.W. Bro. Thos. C. Macnab	South Carolina	R.W. Bro. John R. Bellinger	Charles Inglesby	Charleston
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R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton.....	Virginia.....	W. Bro. Rev. Hartley Carmichael, D. D., Richmond.....	G. W. Carrington.....	Richmond
R. W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinon.....	Washington.....	M. W. Bro. James E. Edmison.....	Thos. M. Reed.....	Olympia
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R. W. Bro. Henry Rush.....	Wisconsin.....	M. W. Bro. Hiram W. Sawyer.....	John W. Ladin.....	Milwaukee
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	The Netherlands.....	Bro. T. A. C. Delbider.....	J. G. DeGonzales.....	Mexico
	Mexico.....	Bro. Louis Guipil.....	M. J. Cace.....	Linna
	New Grenada.....	Bro. J. M. Sauter Angiano.....	J. Alberto Nadal.....	Mayaguez
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	U. States of Columbia.....			
	Venezuela.....	Bro. Antonia M. Mollejas.....		

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APPENDIX TO PROCEEDINGS OF 1899.

Report on Correspondence.

HENRY ROBERTSON, *Chairman.*

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.

The Committee on Correspondence beg leave to present the following review of the various Proceedings of other Grand Lodges which have been placed in their hands during the past year.

By far the most important topic of discussion in Masonic circles in America is the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in their quasi-recognition of the Negro lodges and Grand Lodges. The full text of the resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge of Washington in this matter will be found in the review of that jurisdiction. It is true that the author of these resolutions says that they do not recognise any Negro Grand Lodge, but the distinction is too fine for ordinary mortals to grasp. The Grand Lodge allows its lodges and members to recognise as Masons Negroes initiated in lodges tracing their origin to certain named Negro Grand Lodges; and if this is not a recognition of those bodies, then we must confess that we do not know what recognition means. At all events, it seems to be everywhere an accepted fact that recognition of the Negro lodges and Grand Lodges is the meaning and effect of these resolutions.

The merits of the case have been fully and exhaustively discussed in years gone by. The subject of Negro Masonry has been brought to the attention of a number of Grand Lodges with the invariable result that it was condemned as clandestine and irregular.

The question of color does not enter into the discussion at all, it being universally admitted that neither race nor color will debar an applicant from initiation into the mysteries of the Craft.

There are many regular Negro Masons, made in regular lodges; and the status of these is not in question; but it is the far larger number, tracing their origin to African Lodge, sometimes called "Prince Hall" Lodge, that the Grand Lodge of Washington proposes to recognize.

This African Lodge, of which Prince Hall was Master, was chartered by the Grand Lodge of England in 1784 to meet in Boston, Massachusetts, a territory which had been then already occupied by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts since the year 1775. African Lodge was empowered to meet as a lodge, but it had no power to constitute any other lodges. For failure to make returns and other reasons, it was struck off the roll by the Grand Lodge of England in 1813. It does not appear to have worked after the death of Prince Hall in 1807. Prior to his death, however, he, without any apparent authority, organized a lodge in Philadelphia and another in Providence, Rhode Island, and these three lodges afterwards formed a Grand Lodge; and it is from this body that all the present Negro Lodges and Grand Lodges proposed to be recognized by the Grand Lodge of Washington trace their origin.

The whole subject has been exhaustively treated by such eminent brethren as Charles W. Moore, Winslow Lewis, William S. Gardner, Charles Levi Woodbury, Josiah H. Drummond and others, and all agree that these Negro Lodges are irregular and clandestine.

At the present writing it looks as if the Grand Lodge of Washington would be entirely cut from fellowship with nearly all of the American Grand Lodges. The one solitary note of approval is from Bro. Joseph Robbins, of Illinois, whose individual opinion is in favor of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

The Grand Lodges of New York, North Carolina, Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas, Florida, New Jersey, Alabama, South Carolina, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Louisiana have all declared non-intercourse.

Bros. Cunningham, of Ohio, and Atkinson, of West Virginia, disagree with the conclusions of Washington.

Rhode Island says that only one Grand Lodge can be erected in the same jurisdiction and that such Grand Lodge cannot divide with another body the control of

the Craft in any given State or Territory; and they fraternally ask the Grand Lodge of Washington to reconsider their action.

Massachusetts protests and demands a speedy reconsideration.

Michigan, Utah and Virginia also ask the Grand Lodge of Washington to repeal its action.

Connecticut condemns the action, and Bro. Singleton, of the District of Columbia, says that these Negro Lodges are undoubtedly clandestine.

We have received and reviewed the Proceedings of all the American Grand Lodges, and also the Proceedings of New South Wales, New Zealand, Victoria and South Australia, with a partial account of the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland. These reviews are arranged in alphabetical order and a list of them will be found at the close of this report.

ALABAMA.

78th Communication, Montgomery, Dec. 6, 1898.

James A. Bilbro, G.M.

The work is growing and taking deeper root than ever before. The brethren are giving greater heed to the spirit of Masonry, and practising more faithfully the principal tenets of the Order.

The Grand Master issued dispensations for three new lodges.

He recommends as follows:

"1. I recommend that the explanation of the principal tenets of the Order as given in the Chart, and the three great duties of a Mason, as given in the charge at initiation, be read in open Lodge at each regular Communication of our subordinate Lodges.

"I do not believe these great lessons can be too often repeated nor made too familiar to the Craft. They are the basis of all that is good in Masonry, and without their practice there can be no growth in those virtues which mark true Masonic character. * * *

"2. I recommend that the time within which a lodge may demand of a Sister Lodge fees, because of a failure to comply with Section 13 of Article 6 of the Constitution, be limited to three months after notice or information that the degrees, or any of them, have been conferred.

"3. I recommend that hereafter each subordinate Lodge forward with its returns to the Grand Lodge a report signed by

the Master, stating the number of widows and orphans of deceased Masons, in the jurisdiction of his lodge, in circumstances of need, and what is being done for their relief.

"4. I recommend that at the regular Communications of a subordinate lodge, the following questions be asked by the Master, before closing the lodge:

"1. Are any of the brethren sick?

"2. Is there a Master Mason or member of his family, in the Jurisdiction of this Lodge, in want or distress?

"3. Are the brethren living in peace and harmony?

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That all fraternal relations heretofore subsisting between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington be, and they are hereby suspended until the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington shall have rescinded its resolutions recognizing Negro Masonry."

Their new Masonic Temple was dedicated with full ceremonies, and they had the pleasure of meeting in their own home. The land and building and furnishing cost about \$53,000.

The Grand Lodge has sustained a heavy loss in the death of Bro. Palmer J. Pillans, P.G.M. He was Grand Master in 1876 and 1877, Chairman of Correspondence for over 20 years and a faithful, earnest and active member of the Grand Lodge for more than 40 years. He was a man of the most kindly nature, earnest in good works and beloved by all. His reports were always interesting and profitable and his extensive experience made him a power in the Craft. Having completed a well-spent life, he passed away at the age of 82, to the sorrow of all his brethren.

The successor of Bro. Pillans in the Correspondence Department is Bro. William Y. Titcomb, who furnishes an excellent review of the current Proceedings. Canada for 1897 and 1898 receives due attention, with commendation of our work of benevolence. His concluding remarks are full of eloquence:

"We have been wont to liken our Craft to a stately ship sailing over many a sea. This majestic ship of Masonry has come on her glistening way adown the ages, leaving behind her a resplendent wake on the sea of human vicissitudes. At times her skies have been serene, and, for a season, she has ploughed her foamy furrow with even keel; anon, she has encountered storm and tempest.

"The hidden reefs of envy have lurked below a smooth and shining surface to lure her to destruction; the blasts of fury opened wide their cavernous jaws to swallow her bodily, but

have descended upon her as did those let loose by Eolus on the fleet of pious Æneas; the fierce lightnings of malice have blazed about her bulwarks; the loud thunders of hate have roared and rattled above her; the huge billows of rage have opened wide their cavernous jaws to swallow her bodily, but with timbers staunch and tight, her faithful crew all at their posts, the pilot, Wisdom, at the helm, the square and compasses as her guides, and the Holy Bible for her chart, she has held on her way, and still holds on toward the Port of Everlasting Peace.

Lodges, 376; members, 11,345; decrease, 23.

B. D. Williams (Oxford), G.M.

H. C. Armstrong (Montgomery), G.S.

ARIZONA.

17th Communication, Globe, Nov. 15, 1898.

Joseph B. Creamer, G. M.

On the state of the Craft, he says:

"The past year seems to have been one of general prosperity in Arizona, and our Order being in close touch and sympathy with everything affecting the welfare of the people at large, has had its share of this prosperous condition of affairs. By correspondence with the several officers of the Grand Lodge and the Masters of the various lodges, I have been able to ascertain that, while none of the lodges have lost ground, the majority have made material gains. The report of the Grand Secretary will show a gain of sixty-five in the jurisdiction. All is peaceful and harmonious within the jurisdiction, and only a slight jar occurred between two of the lodges, regarding a matter of territorial jurisdiction, which has been amicably adjusted."

Bro. Charles D. Belden, the Grand Orator, delivered an eloquent address on "Freemasonry—The Divine Plan of Life," from which we make the following extract:

"The Temple, when completed, represented organized labor. Organization that was peaceful and harmonious; labor in unison with the arts and sciences. It was the exponent of the first effort to dignify labor. It was an inspiring object lesson of enthusiastic liberality, scientific labor, the brotherhood of man, and the supremacy of Jehovah.

"The truths contained in that object lesson were:

"1. This life aspires to immortality.

"2. This life is labor, and labor is life.

"3. This life is a brotherhood of equality.

"4. This life is best when free, but must be well regulated.

"To-day the Order of Freemasonry includes a million of disciples preaching and practicing similar precepts.

"The thoughts we are thinking our fathers would think,' and Freemasonry we find holding aloft its signs and symbols, its emblems and truths, amid the growing civilizations, concurrent with the spread of the religion of God, during each of the centuries past. Documentary evidence may be wanting, but results are not. We may trace our speculative system back for two hundred years, when we enter upon the operative. Thence for centuries the work of the Architects, entirely under the control of a monopolizing Order, is continuous with the Roman Collegia or the Byzantine Orders. But under whatever name, or perhaps without a name, this system, whose highest ministry is the service of man, is distinctly traceable from the building of King Solomon's Temple. Then and there, under the supervision of the wisest of mankind, whose inspiration was direct from God, a new and distinct departure was effected in the manner of the conduct of the labor of mankind. Labor from that day forth meant a more glorious manhood. Since then the system that achieved that humane reform has progressed with the development of the ages. As civilization has changed, as invention has revealed wonders, and as bigotry and superstition have yielded to the influence of the expanding rays of Eternal Truth, so equally has this handmaid of religion advanced her standards and exerted a beneficial power.

"Gamaliel, the Hebrew scholar, applies a profound rule for the measurement of affairs: 'If this counsel, or this work, be of men, it will come to naught; but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it.' Apply this test to Freemasonry. It has survived the ruins of systems, orders and religions; of states, of kingdoms and of empires. 'In every nation, among the clashing interests of religious sectarianism, the merciless persecution of enthusiastic bigots, the jealousies of unpitied tyrants, and the convulsions of the moral and the revolutions of the political world, Masonry has escaped the ruins.'

"Without territorial possessions, without any coercing power than that of morality and virtue, it has survived the wreck of mighty empires, and resisted the destroying hand of time. Contrast the history of Freemasonry with the history of the nations of the world, and what is the result: The Jews, God's favored people, into whose custody Masonry was first entrusted by its Divine Author, where are they now? A race of wanderers, scattered over the globe. And the stupendous and magnificent structure, the Temple, at once their glory and the wonder of the world, where is it now? Not one stone left upon another. Babylon, in her day, the Queen of nations, has fallen, never to rise again. Egypt, with her kings and philosophers, classic Greece, and imperial Rome, we now find but occupying their page in the history of the world. But Masonry, at this moment, shines throughout the world with as bright and undiminished a lustre as when first revealed by God to man."

On the negro question, the Committee on Correspondence presented the following report:

"In the matter of the action by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Washington, recognizing as legitimate Masons negroes tracing descent from 'Prince Hall' Lodge, your committee does not think any action by this Grand Lodge necessary at this time.

"The question of the admission of negroes, either by initiation, affiliation or visitation, has never, to this committee's knowledge, come before any lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction; and your committee is of the opinion that when the question does arise a strict compliance with the requirements of the Constitution and Ritual will solve all difficulties, without the necessity of allusion to or drawing of the color line.

"A desire for notoriety, rather than a desire to right a wrong, is probably the cause of this cloud occasionally obscuring the Masonic horizon."

The Grand Master refused to deputize a brother who was not a Past Master to install the officers of a lodge. Quite correct.

Tucson was made the permanent place of meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Lodges, 14; members, 701; increase, 84.

Anthony A. Johns (Prescott), G.M.

George J. Roskrue (Tuscon), G. S.

ARKANSAS.

59th Communication, Little Rock, Nov. 15, 1898.

J. B. Baker, G. M.

The Fraternity has maintained its general prosperity and harmony prevails. Six new lodges were formed.

Ouachita College of Arkadelphia donated to the Grand Lodge two Scholarships, valued at \$50 each, the beneficiaries to be daughters of deceased Master Masons.

The National Grand Lodge of Sweden was recognized.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That in view of the action in regard to Negro Masonry taken by the Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons, at its last Communication, the Grand Lodge of Arkansas hereby declares non-intercourse between its subordinates and members, and the said Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members."

They are still in trouble with the debt on their Masonic Temple. It belongs to the Grand Lodge and the revenues do not seem sufficient to pay the expenses and also the interest on the debt. In order to save the property, an amendment to the Constitution was adopted

providing that for the next six years the Grand Lodge shall only meet biennially. The saving thus to be effected will put them in good shape. There will be no meeting in 1899. The report on Correspondence is also to be discontinued until the Temple debt is paid.

Lodges, 448; members, 12,522; decrease, 156.

Robert M. Smith (Hot Springs), G. M.

Fay Hempstead (Little Rock), G. S.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

27th Communication, New Westminster, June 23, 1898.

Rev. E. D. McLaren, G.M.

The Grand Master visited 18 out of the 24 lodges in the jurisdiction. He reports the utmost harmony and a year of peace and brotherly love. On one occasion he experienced a new sensation:

"On Thursday evening I visited Kaslo Lodge, where I had the somewhat novel experience of having to appear before a Board of Trial. The examining committee felt considerable reluctance about subjecting the Grand Master to an examination; but as there was no other course open, they discharged their duty faithfully. As some of you may be feeling apprehensive as to the result, let me at once relieve your anxiety by informing you that I managed to pass a satisfactory examination, and was thereupon duly admitted to the lodge, where the brethren received me with the utmost cordiality."

We also extract the following:

"In view of the probability of the presentation in the near future of a petition for a dispensation to form a Masonic Lodge in Dawson City, I have written to W. Bro. Richardson, of that place, authorizing him to examine the brethren who may be recommended as the first officers of the new lodge, and I have also communicated with the M. W., the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, asking if that Grand Lodge claims to have jurisdiction in the Yukon Territory."

There are prospects of new lodges at Fort Steele, Midway, New Denver and Sandon.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. W. A. De-Wolf Smith, of New Westminster. Canada for 1897 receives a good notice and he is complimentary to our District Deputies on their attention to their work. He also says

"We are pleased to notice in the list of District Deputies

for the present year, the names of two old friends, R. W. Bros. Dr. C. E. Josephs, of Pembroke, and Dr. W. H. Howey, of Sudbury. We have no doubt that they will render a good account of their stewardship next July."

Lodges, 24; members, 1,339; increase, 97.

David Wilson (Victoria), G.M.

W. J. Quinlan (Nelson), G. S.

CALIFORNIA.

49th Communication, San Francisco, Oct. 11, 1898.

Thomas Flint, Jr., G. M.

He reports continued prosperity and a large increase in membership. He decided that an Italian, speaking no English, could not receive the degrees by the medium of an interpreter. A new lodge was opened at Covina. In all cases of a change in the by-laws involving a reduction of dues, he required a complete financial statement; and he refused approval where the proposed reduction would leave the income too small for the proper care of the sick and indigent. The following extracts from his excellent address will be found interesting:

"At the suggestion of a number of the brethren I authorized the erection of Masonic headquarters among the soldiers located at Camp Merritt.

"By this means the brethren of the different Grand Jurisdictions were enabled to become acquainted, information of a Masonic character was furnished to all inquirers, an opportunity was given for reading, writing and social intercourse, and, in general, everything possible was done for the comfort and accommodation of our soldier brethren.

"Two applications have been received by me during the past six months asking for dispensations to form lodges among the soldiers enlisted from this State.

"To those who conceived the idea, and so faithfully carried out the plan in all its details, I extend my personal thanks, and trust that the Grand Lodge will give its approval of the same.

"A careful examination of the reports of various Grand Masters from 1861 to 1865, upon the so-called Army Lodges, convinced me that for various reasons it would not be for the best interests of the Craft to grant dispensations of such a character, at least until the Grand Lodge had determined the manner and method by which such dispensations were to be granted.

"When the Philippines shall have come under the authority of the United States and something of political and social permanency shall have been secured, the location of Masonic

Lodges in that far away land to assist in the upbuilding of the State and the elevation of mankind will be the duty of this great Order.

"I refer this subject to you for your consideration and for such action as may by you be deemed wise and proper for the future.

"On May 3, 1898, I gave my official sanction to the opening of a Masonic Fair in the city of San Francisco, under the auspices and direction of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, and for the purpose of raising funds for the completion of the same.

"The vast crowds that attended from the opening to the closing night is evidence of the success of the undertaking, and the report of the Board of Trustees will show the financial aid received by this means. Too much credit cannot be accorded to those who devoted their time and means to this Fair. So many contributed to make the affair successful that it is impossible to mention individual persons, but to one and all the thanks of this Grand Lodge should be given.

"I congratulate you, brethren, upon the fact that the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, which for so many years has engaged the time and attention of the Craft, has at last been completed, and that this Grand Lodge will at this Communication dedicate it to the purposes for which it has been erected.

"May those in whose minds the idea was conceived, and those by whose intelligence, business ability and pertinacity this work has been accomplished, receive from this Grand Lodge the thanks that to them are due. The struggle has been long, the task difficult, but at last success has been achieved, and on to-morrow the widows and fatherless will have a 'Home' to shelter them from the cold blasts of adversity and from the trials and vexations of life.

"The future support and maintenance of this institution should now receive the attention of the Fraternity, and I urge upon you a careful consideration of this subject.

"The rush to the Klondike and the war with Spain have created an unusual demand for Grand Lodge diplomas from the brethren of this jurisdiction. The price fixed for the issuance of each diploma has heretofore been \$1, but I am informed by the Grand Secretary that the actual cost to the Grand Lodge exceeds that amount, and would, therefore, recommend that the price of each diploma be increased to such an amount as will at least reimburse the Grand Lodge for money expended.

"The recent acquisition by the United States of the Hawaiian Islands has added, in a certain sense, to the responsibilities of this Grand Lodge. The two lodges chartered by this Grand Body have thus become nearer and dearer to us, and a territory has been opened that, to a certain degree, may be considered our own, in a Masonic sense. While the several lodges situated at Hawaii have derived their charters from

different Grand Jurisdictions, it would seem to be for the best interests of Freemasonry that they be, if possible, comprised within the same jurisdiction, and from the fact that the Grand Lodge of California is nearer than any other Grand Lodge; and from the further fact that our Masonic relations are, and must be, in the future brought nearer and closer, it would appear that the most natural affiliation of the lodges situated in Hawaii should be with the Grand Lodge of California. We are not unmindful of the fact that the territory of Hawaii is a concurrent one, and that the lodges heretofore chartered have been so chartered in a regular manner, nor would we in any way seek to infringe upon the jurisdiction of any other regular Grand Lodge; but the nearness of Hawaii to this jurisdiction, the close relations that must hereafter exist between our peoples and the fraternal friendship that has in the past been a source of pleasure to us both, would seem to indicate that a closer union would be advisable. I therefore recommend that the subject of a closer union of the lodges in Hawaii with those of this jurisdiction be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and that said committee report to this Grand Lodge at this Communication such recommendations as they may think proper under the circumstances."

The following communication was received from their lodge at Honolulu:

"To our Masonic Brethren:

"Greeting—In view of the fact that the recent annexation of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States has drawn the attention of the public, more especially the people of the Pacific Coast, to this group, and in view also of the fact that many people know but little of Hawaii, except the information gleaned from sensational newspaper articles, it is reasonable to suppose that large numbers of the unemployed will desire to rush to what they believe to be a new country, with a fine climate, a rich soil, a sparse civilized population, and large tracts of land lying idle and only awaiting ownership by possession of the first new comer.

"The influx of strangers has already begun, and while no doubt the experience of many disappointed seekers of employment will find expression in the newspapers of the Coast and elsewhere at an early day—and, perhaps, deter some emigrants from 'making the leap in the dark'—still, the several fraternal societies of Honolulu deem it a duty to sound a note of warning to their brethren in the hope that much suffering and disappointment may be averted.

"To that end Hawaiian Lodge, No. 21, F. & A. M., have appointed the undersigned as a committee to communicate with the Masonic Grand Lodges, respectfully petitioning them to advise the brethren of their jurisdiction, through their local lodges, of the present state of affairs at the Islands, and warn them that there is little or no opportunity for those who being unemployed are seeking a livelihood. For mechanics who are

skilled workmen there is occasional demand. But there is no certainty of continual work, as the resident master workmen as a rule are equal to all requirements.

"For clerical work, book-keepers, shopmen, stenographers, typewriters, etc., both male and female, the supply for the past two years has been greatly in excess of the demand, and for unskilled labor neither climate nor pay is adapted to the white man. Outside of Honolulu and Hilo there are really no towns or villages, unless plantation camps may be classed as such.

"In the professions—medical, dental and law—we have been more than overcrowded for several months before annexation took place, and dozens have come here only to meet with disappointment, and some with distress, and happy when assisted to their homes.

"This fraternal warning is by no means intended to dissuade the brethren from visiting the Islands and settling here should they find the opportunity. The mechanic, the merchant and the professional man, who has the means and the leisure, will find much to interest him, and perhaps in due time the opportunity to engage in his calling and settle here, and he will be cordially welcome. The hotels are good, the cost of living not much more than in San Francisco, upon which we depend for most of our food luxuries, and many of our ordinary food supplies. But we are separated from the nearest Pacific Coast port by over 2,100 miles of deep sea water, and the man coming to our port without means, and unable to obtain employment, would soon find himself stranded in a country from which he could not return on foot, a distressed stranger in a strange land.

"J. A. HASSINGER, P. M.,

"M. E. GROSSMAN, P. M.,

"ALEX. MACKINTOSH, P.M.,

"Committee.

"Honolulu, September 13, 1898."

The Grand Lecturer's experience has been that the only successful way to teach a man the work is to sit down with him privately and go over it again and again until he has learned it.

The Grand Dieta of Mexico was recognized.

The Masonic Fair realized \$24,000, and the other subscriptions to the Home were over \$70,000. For the maintenance of the Home a per capita tax of one dollar per year is to be levied, which will net about \$19,000.

Bro. William A. Davies reviews our Proceedings of 1897 and says:

"Two hundred pages of proceedings are taken up with the reports of eighteen District Deputy Grand Masters, whose thoroughness in detailing the condition of their respective dis-

tricts is superior to the discharge of the same duties in any other jurisdiction with which we are conversant."

Among his concluding remarks we find the following:

"We regret exceedingly to note the slow progress of the just and equitable regulations proposed by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, and known as the 'Wisconsin Plan.' They have been vigorously attacked by a minority, and the majority of Grand Lodges seem to pass them as not demanding early consideration. We hope the Wisconsin Plan may yet receive the attention it merits.

"Of Bro. Drummond's attempt to bring the Representatives of the Fraternity in the various American Jurisdictions to respect each other's rights by the recognition of the status given to a rejected candidate by the law of the jurisdiction in which he was rejected, known as the 'Maine Resolutions,' the outlook is fair for the adoption of the principle and an agreement upon a period that will make entire harmony possible, and thus remove the greatest existing obstacle to universal Masonry.

"The proposition is steadily gaining ground and Masonic approval, and as the foreshadowed results are realized this grand idea will reflect more than Grand Honors upon its distinguished promoter."

Lodges, 265; members, 19,542; increase, 734.

Frank M. Angellotti (San Rafael), G.M.

George Johnson (San Francisco), G. S.

COLORADO.

38th Communication, Denver, Sept. 20, 1898.

Cromwell Tucker, G. M.

The fair state of prosperity reported by his predecessor has been fully maintained, and the prospect is propitious for a material advancement in the near future. We quote some of the decisions of the Grand Master on new points.

"A lodge should not admit any visitor without due examination, except upon the voucher direct, or through another brother, of a brother who has sat in a lodge with, or has properly examined him and knows him to be in good standing. The voucher of a brother who may have met him in the Consistory, Commandery, Council or Chapter, and has no other knowledge of his standing in the lodge, is not lawful information.

"Grand Lodge By-law No. 125, and the decisions thereunder, expressly provide that no person engaged in, or profiting by, the sale of intoxicating liquors, can be admitted to membership, either by petition for the degrees or for affiliation; hence

the petition of a stockholder of a corporation engaged, either wholly or partially, in such prohibited business, can not be entertained, nor can the petition of an employe of such corporation, provided he sells or handles liquors for his employers, be received. In the case of an employe of a corporation partially engaged in the traffic, who neither handles nor sells liquors for his employers and agrees not to do so in the future, his petition may be accepted.

"Question—A Mason, hailing from the Grand Orient of Italy, whose lodge is now extinct, presents a diploma and certificate of the Grand Secretary, setting forth that the lodge is defunct and that the brother was a member thereof. Are those documents sufficient to accompany a petition for membership in this jurisdiction?

"After giving the matter prolonged and careful consideration and inquiry, and bearing in mind the action taken by this Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication in regard to the admittance or affiliation of a Mason hailing from or made in any lodge chartered by the Grand Dieta of Mexico, I decided:

"Answer—That the credentials submitted are not sufficient for the purpose indicated, owing to the fact that reciprocal relations have not been established between the 'Grande Oriente della Massoneria Italia' and the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

"The following question was submitted by one of our lodges:

"Is it a violation of Masonic law for a Mason to be a candidate on a high license ticket in a town election?

"After making diligent inquiry regarding the necessity of a decision upon this subject, and being informed that a political campaign was in progress, in which a ruling would be used detrimentally, I felt constrained to make the following reply:

"The question, apparently, has been raised at this time, more for the purpose of affecting a political issue at your place than for the good of the Craft in general, and for this reason I must decline to formulate a decision."

Three new lodges were opened.

A special committee was appointed to visit W. Bro. Adna Adams Treat, who in April last passed his 101st birthday, and to extend to him the congratulations of the Grand Lodge on his long and useful life.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf. Canada for 1897 receives kindly mention.

Lodges, 91; members, 7,605; increase, 271.

Horace T. DeLong (Grand Junction), G. M.

Ed. C. Parmelee (Denver), G. S.

CONNECTICUT.

111th Communication, New Haven, January 18, 1899.
Frank W. Havens, G. M.

"Much of the welfare of the Craft and the harmony existing in the jurisdiction, as well as the success achieved and enthusiasm displayed by the officers and members of the lodges is due to the tact, courtesy and skill of the District Deputies."

The Grand Master visited a number of the lodges and bears personal testimony to the efficiency of the officers. On the occasion of one of these visits, he conferred the third degree upon his only son. He has words of praise for their Masonic Home:

"As often as lay in my power so to do, I have visited this noble institution which stands as an evidence of the Masonic spirit of charity and brotherly love permeating the jurisdiction of Connecticut, and is the pride of every Mason within her border.

"The oftener I visit the Home, look into the happy faces of our brothers and sisters there, listen to the heartfelt expressions of love and gratitude which fall from their lips, note the neat and orderly methods which pertain to its management, cast my eye over the broad acres that stretch out so fair and beautiful to view, the oftener I am possessed of a feeling of gratitude that I have been permitted to be a partaker in providing and maintaining that splendid monument.

"I am convinced that this feeling is not mine alone but that it is shared equally by every one who takes the pains to inform himself of the true character of the Home and of the important place it is rapidly assuming among the benevolent institutions of the country. The fame of our Masonic Home extends far beyond our own borders and its noble success in dispensing Masonic charity is having a potent influence for good elsewhere.

"I candidly believe that it needs only that the craft throughout the state have at least an annual organized opportunity to come together at the Home, to spend a day in becoming acquainted with its purposes, its methods and its results to command from them cheerful and most generous support if not indeed abundant endowment."

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand and the Grand Orient of Belgium were recognized.

The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington regarding Negro Masonry was condemned. On the same subject Bro. John H. Barlow, in his report on Correspondence, says:

"We do not propose to enter into a lengthy discussion of this subject, but as briefly as possible state our opinions; we freely admit that Masonry is universal—that the question of white and black does not enter into the discussion.

"If the Grand Lodge of England or any lawful Grand Lodge should grant a charter for a lodge to be located in the State of Washington, previous to the formation of that Grand Lodge, it would be a lawful lodge, because it was in unoccupied territory; but when the Grand Lodge was formed, forty-one years ago, it was given supreme jurisdiction over the entire territory, and all lodges subsequently planted in that state by any other authority, are necessarily clandestine lodges, whether white or black, because it was then occupied territory. This doctrine may be American, or, as he styles it in his report, 'modern,' but it is older than the Grand Lodge of Washington, and one which American Grand Lodges cannot afford to concede, if we would save our time honored institution from confusion and disrapture. We deeply regret that the Grand Lodge of Washington has taken this seemingly hasty action which, unless rescinded, must result in the withdrawal of fellowship by her sister jurisdictions."

Canada for 1898 is fraternally reviewed.

Lodges, 109; members, 17,232; increase, 183.

George G. McNall (Greenwich), G. M.

John H. Barlow (Hartford), G. S.

DELAWARE.

92nd Communication, Wilmington, Oct. 5, 1898.

James E. Dutton, G.M.

The Grand Master visited all the lodges. Considerable work was done in the Schools of Instruction. The attendance in most cases was very encouraging.

"A communication was received from a committee of Past Masters of Hawaiian Lodge, No. 21, F. & A. M., of Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, advising seekers of employment not to come to the Islands in the expectation of their being a demand for their services, as there is little or no opportunity in the islands for those who being unemployed are seeking a livelihood."

A proposal to limit their "perpetual jurisdiction" to five years was negatived and the same fate befel a proposition to debar liquor dealers from membership.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. L. H. Jackson. It includes a review of our Proceedings of 1897.

Lodges, 21; members, 2,176; increase, 50.

J. Harmer Rile (Wilmington), G.M.

Benjamin F. Bartram (Wilmington), G. S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

88th Communication, Washington, Nov. 9, 1898.
Samuel C. Palmer, G.M.

The lodges are in good condition and harmony prevails. The business transacted was almost entirely of local interest. A National Masonic Fair and Exposition was held in April, 1898, and the profit resulting therefrom forms a substantial nucleus for the fund to erect a Masonic Temple in Washington.

In his review of our Proceedings of 1897, Bro. Wm. R. Singleton says that the amount expended by our Grand Lodge in benevolence "exceeds by far any other instance that we know of among all the Grand Lodges."

On the negro question, Bro. Singleton has the following remarks. His position at the centre of government and his extended experience with members of foreign lodges unite in making him an undoubted authority in such matters:

"Now, the present writer has always duly recognized and fraternized with regularly-made Negro Masons, and he has met many such in the fifty-nine years of his Masonic career.

"In 1843, in the city of St. Louis, Bro. Joab Bernard, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, laid the corner-stone of the Centennial Methodist Church.

"Frank Johnson and his famous negro band of minstrels were in St. Louis giving concerts. The present writer was Acting Grand Marshal and engaged that band to furnish music for the occasion. When he arrived at our hall Frank Johnson proclaimed himself to be a Mason, with three others of the band. We examined Johnson and he vouched for the others. These four were admitted to the Grand Lodge room and were furnished with suitable regalia. They took their places in the band with regalia on, and St. Louis citizens for the first time beheld the white and colored Masons parading the streets together.

"In Boston a great many colored men have been made Masons by the regular bodies, even to the Commandery.

"In our position as Grand Secretary, we have had many interviews in our office with colored Masons from foreign lodges, bearing regular diplomas, and we have invariably treated them just as we do our white brethren.

"We do not recognize color in Masonry, hence the color question has nothing to do with this discussion, except with many negrophiles who seem to care more for the welfare of the negro than for the peace and harmony of their white brethren; but we feel assured that if those two applicants in

Washington had been white men the Grand Lodge of Washington would never have considered the question at all.

"We think that it has been clearly shown first, that the military lodge had no authority for conferring the degrees upon Prince Hall and others unless their charter shall be produced showing such authority; second, that if such authority did exist in that charter, that Hall and his crew, not being a regularly-chartered lodge by Section VIII., Old Regulations, had not authority to work as a body; third, that although a charter had been granted and received by Hall, there was never a regularly constituted lodge, and therefore all work done under the presumption of a charter was irregular; and, finally, fourth, there has never been any regular or Masonic authority since that time to legalize any act of theirs down to the present day."

Lodges, 25; members, 5,298; increase, 156

John H. Small, Jr. (Washington), G. M.

William R. Singleton (Washington), G. S.

ENGLAND.

We have received the Proceedings of a Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of England, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on the 1st of March, 1899. The Right Hon. the Earl of Amherst, Pro Grand Master, was in the chair.

The principal business was the election of the Grand Master and the Grand Treasurer. These appear to be the only elective offices in the Grand Lodge. The Prince of Wales was re-elected Grand Master by acclamation. Bro. Alfred H. Bevan was elected Grand Treasurer over Bro. Harry Manfield by a vote of 1,322 to 1,026. The contest was between the City of London and the Provinces, and the City won.

Additions to the Freemasons' Hall are to be built at a cost of \$60,000, and some adjoining lots were purchased at a cost of \$41,000.

There are over 3,000 lodges on the roll. Quite a number of them are composed entirely of members who are total abstainers. One lodge has its membership confined to members of the Press and another has all its members Vegetarians.

Edward Letchworth (London), G. S.

FLORIDA.

70th Communication, Jacksonville, January 17, 1899.
James M. Hilliard, G.M.

The reports from the District Deputies are of a mixed character. Some lodges have been compelled to surrender their charters, while others are flourishing. One new lodge was opened.

The recognition of Negro Lodges by the Grand Lodge of Washington was condemned, and non-intercourse declared by the passage of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Florida hereby suspends all intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, and forbids its subordinates and members from having any communication with lodges or Masons owing allegiance to the said Grand Lodge of Washington."

On the liquor question, the following was adopted:

"Resolved, that the liquor traffic is demoralizing in its effects, has been productive of great evil, misery and suffering, and has caused the downfall of many Brother Masons; therefore the particular lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction are advised and instructed not to accept the petitions of those engaged in it when they apply for admission to our Order."

A report on Correspondence is promised for next year.

Lodges, 144; members, 4,187; decrease, 130.

Silas B. Wright (DeLand), G. M.

Wilber P. Webster (Jacksonville), G. S.

GEORGIA.

112th Communication, Macon, Oct. 25, 1898.

James W. Taylor, G. M.

One of his decisions is rather remarkable:

"3. An Englishman not having been naturalized, though living in America several years, is still a subject of England and not an American citizen, and is not eligible to the degrees without the consent of the Grand Lodge of England. This decision being based upon an edict of this Grand Lodge declaring a "a man's home is determined by the place where he votes and pays poll tax."

One would naturally think that the fact of his being a resident would make him eligible, without regard to the circumstance of his voting or not voting, and we presume that he pays taxes whether he is an alien or not.

The dispensations granted by the Grand Master to confer degrees out of time were confined strictly to volunteer soldiers, "who shouldered their muskets at their country's call and went forth to illustrate the valor and chivalry of our jurisdiction on the tented field." On "Army Lodges," the Grand Master says:

"I have been called upon for dispensations to establish Army Lodges for the convenience of our soldiers, who are away from home and deprived of the privileges enjoyed by visiting lodges, and enjoying fraternal and social intercourse with each other, secluded from the prying eyes of the profane. This request I refused for prudential reasons, having had some experience with Military Lodges and finding it impossible to govern and keep them in due bounds, I notified all parties concerned that I would grant dispensation to any lodge to confer the degrees out of time on any worthy volunteer."

Three new lodges were opened. The District Deputies have faithfully performed their duties and the results have been very gratifying.

The Gran Dieta of Mexico was recognized.

The mileage allowance was reduced from twenty cents per mile each way to ten cents, and the per diem allowance was increased from \$3 to \$4. This, with other changes in the permanent membership and a reduction in the numbers of members of committees, it is expected will save about \$4,000 per annum, so that they will soon be out of debt and able to accumulate a surplus:

The following was adopted

"3. We have had before us the correspondence between Most Worshipful Grand Master Taylor and Most Worshipful D. N. Nicholson, Grand Master, of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, in reference to a proposed request for permission to grant a dispensation for an Army Lodge to Vermonters, at Chickamauga, to take in Vermonters only, and we approve the courteous and fraternal reply of our Grand Master that he would favorably consider such request and grant same, if made.

"This action was especially magnanimous in view of the fact that it appears from the address of our Grand Master that he disapproved the policy of such dispensations.

"4. We note with pleasure that the Grand Lodge of Peru has revoked the edict that led to the withdrawal of fraternal intercourse by this Grand Body, and in accord with the Grand Master's address on this subject we recommend the re-assumption of friendly relations with that Grand Jurisdiction.

"5. We fully approve the action of the Grand Master in extending fraternal relations to the Grand Dieta Symbolica of Mexico, as same is in strict accord with the resolution of this Grand Lodge, passed at the Annual Communication of 1897,

and supported by the exhaustive investigation of Brother Julius L. Brown.

"6. It gives us pleasure to note the appreciation of the ancient landmarks, evidenced by the circular letter of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy. We trust that this, and all other Grand Jurisdictions, will aid in exposing and denouncing the efforts of the Grand Orient of France and its unworthy offspring, the Grande Frieite Italiano. These so-called Masonic orders are very probably doing more harm to Masonry than the anti-Masonic Congress, recently held at Trent, by Papal authority, and all similar opposition. These two Orients are very much like those famous witnesses of whom it was said: 'There came two false witnesses.'

"We recommend that the Grand Secretary at once inform the Grand Orient of Italy of our sympathy with their efforts, and our willingness to co-operate in any worthy plan to minimize the influence of the above cowans.

"7. Your committee approved the report of the Grand Secretary adverse to the recognition of the Grand Lodge, or Orient of Portugal. In the language of Brother Ramsay, it is more 'rotten' than the Grand Orient of France, and 'may the Lord have mercy on their souls.'

"8. Your committee recommend that fraternal intercourse be established with the Grand Orient of Belgium. Their papers appear to be regular, and have all the ear-marks of good faith, and on applying to that storehouse of Masonic information, Brother Ramsay, we find that their work is regular and in conformity with ancient usages."

The decision quoted above we find was disapproved "on the ground that residence and not citizenship fixes jurisdiction in Masonry."

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. W. S. Ramsay. He thinks it is a serious error for a Grand Lodge to give its endorsement to any business enterprise. Correct.

Lodges, 423; members, 18,611; increase, 428.

W. A. Davis (Macon), G. M.

W. A. Wolihan (Macon), G. S.

IDAHO.

31st Communication, Boise, Sept. 13. 1898.

In the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the session was opened by the Senior Grand Warden, Bro. George H. Storer.

They mourn the death of their Grand Secretary, Bro. C. C. Stevenson, who was well and favorably known throughout the Masonic world for his devotion to the Craft and for his versatility as a Masonic writer.

In the address of the Grand Master, Bro. George M. Waterhouse, we find the following remarks on how to make lodge meetings interesting:

"This may be done in many ways, viz.: Rehearsing the work of the several degrees; by organizing regular classes and placing the members in different positions each evening so that each one may become proficient in any station from Master to Tyler; by taking up some good Masonic history, reading and discussing it; reading the Grand Lodge Reports, not by title, but word for word, discussing each point brought out and endeavoring to devise plans for the better government of this Grand Jurisdiction, that your representatives to the next Grand Lodge may present them.

"Have the lodge order a few first class Masonic Journals, including, of course, our own Masonic paper published by Brother Mock, at Nampa, Idaho, and have some one read some of the choice pieces of literature always found in them and allow a general discussion of them. Try any of these plans, or any other on these lines, during dull times and at the same time try to get the 'seldom attend' members out to your meetings, and when there, give them something to do, and you will be surprised at the change it will make in your attendance. You will also see that the awakening will not be confined to your membership, but the profane will notice the interest taken by the members and it will induce them to make application, and you will find the success carried forward by its own inertia. There will not be so many in arrears for dues if you can induce them to attend regularly. They can nearly always pay the small amount of dues, if paid quarterly, as is the regulation in most of our lodges, and will do so if they are present at the first regular meeting after they become due, but often times when payment has been deferred for some time, the amount becomes large and will never be paid, when suspension or remission of dues becomes necessary and the lodge is financially loser. I do not know of a single instance where a brother has been suspended for non-payment of dues who was a regular attendant at the stated meetings, and regular attendants seldom have to be disciplined in any way. The moral lessons taught by Masonry are always fresh in their memory and those who would otherwise break the moral law are deterred from so doing, by the very persistency of their repetition in the lodge room. If the subject of non-attendance can be successfully disposed of, the 'twin subjects,' non-affiliation and non-payment of dues, will cease to trouble us. Any member who cannot see enough of the sublime and beautiful, moral and refining influences in the teachings of Masonry, to induce him to attempt to retain an honorable membership, has not, and never did have, any rightful place within the tyled recesses of our lodges. Freemasonry contains all the precepts and principles requisite, if properly followed, to make a man an upright, God-fearing, honest citizen."

The State is to be divided into six districts for instruction in the work by the Grand Lecturer and his assistants.

Bro. Fred G. Mock reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1897.

Lodges, 29; members, 1,240; increase, 65.

George W. Storer (Idaho Falls), G. M.

Theo. W. Randall (Boise), G. S.

ILLINOIS.

59th Communication, Chicago, Oct. 4, 1898.

Edward Cook, G. M.

Three new lodges received dispensations. The reports of the District Deputies are of the usual merit and prove the great services they have rendered. Five Schools of Instruction were held and were well attended.

The Grand Orator, M.W. Bro. John Corson Smith, P.G.M., delivered a most eloquent and instructive address on "Freemasonry Universal," which should be given in full to be satisfactorily appreciated, but we have room only for the following extracts:

"This early love of symbolism and eager search after the sublime truths, soon led man to realize that if the same discoveries could be made by different races in different climes and under different conditions that all mankind must have had a common origin and there must have been but one Creator of them all. This, then, was the source of that sublime sentiment of our brothers of the Orient, 'Allah is God. There is but one God, and all mankind are brethren.'

"In all ages the most advanced thinkers have been philosophers whose teachings by symbols and hieroglyphics have been of life, death, and the resurrection. And to the earliest of those ancient philosophers we are indebted for that classification of our Masonic symbolism and landmarks which is to be found in that trinity of our ancient landmarks, never to be modified or set aside, the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and the life which is yet to come. That Masonry existed before any of the schools of philosophy is a well-established fact, for the earliest man dwelling in caves was a worker in stone, and as he pushed away from his mountain fastness into the plain below he had to build him shelter of stone or other material the most accessible.

"Rudely erected as were the buildings in early days, the workman showed a knowledge wonderfully in advance of the appliances used, and great has been the progress from the time of the cave dweller to that of the no less hazy period of

the builders of the rock-cut caverns and stupendous fortresses of India or the time-defying temples of grand old Egypt, and the still more modern palaces and cathedrals of mediaeval Europe. Through all these ages of the world's history Masonry has been in advance of civilization, spurring man on to a higher and nobler destiny. From the time of the unskilled labor of the cave-dweller to the master builders of India and Egypt, Masonry stood alone, and lifted man from ignorance and helplessness to a splendor of semi-barbarism such as the world had never seen. At that time the study of symbolism began, the schools of philosophy became established, and our ancient craft had co-workers to help make man better. In the erection of those impregnable fortresses and palaces of India, at the building of those indestructible pyramids and temples of Egypt, Masonry and Freemasonry became merged and from that time were one and the same body, operative and speculative Freemasonry." * * *

"At the time or period herein named, the operative Mason called to his assistance the speculative Mason, found in the schools of philosophy, to help beautify and adorn the temples then in process of erection, and that was ages before the reign of King Solomon. I myself have seen our Masonic emblems and symbols engraven, inlaid or painted on the venerable piles of Masonry and mosques of India, the temples, obelisks, and tombs in Egypt, even to the date-palm, or Acacia, and the box or coffin on the walls of the ruined temples at Luxor, many of which must have been erected five thousand or more years ago."

Bro. Joseph Robbins presented an elaborate and exhaustive report on "Recognized, Recognizable and Other Governing Bodies," which was adopted by the Grand Lodge. Its concluding paragraphs are given below, and they will be found of great benefit and useful for reference:

"In submitting the following lists, we have had reference to the originally lawful character of the bodies named, and also to the question whether they have since set up any conditions or distinctions as tests of admission thereto not recognized by the charges of a Freemason, and which would consequently prevent the Masons of Illinois from meeting them upon the level of a perfect equality whether in the governing or constituent lodges.

Recognized Grand Lodges: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, British Columbia, California, Canada, Colorado, Connecticut, Cuba, Delaware, District of Columbia, England, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Indian Territory, Iowa, Ireland, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Manitoba, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New South Wales, New York, New Zealand, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nova Scotia, Ohio,

Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Rhode Island, Scotland, South Australia, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Victoria, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

"To this list should be added Tasmania, the conditions having long been ripe for the recognition of that Grand Lodge. Recognition has only waited upon their formal request therefor, and is herewith recommended.

"The English District Grand Lodges and the Scotch and Irish Provincial Grand Lodges existing in the British colonies, or other open territory, are included in the recognition of the parent bodies.

"Grand Lodges known to have originally derived their Masonry wholly or in part from lawful sources, and which in the present state of our knowledge it is deemed expedient neither to accept nor reject as lawful members of the Masonic body: The three Prussian Grand Lodges—the Three Globes, the Grand National Lodge of Germany, and the Royal York of Friendship, at Berlin; and the Grand Lodges of Concord (Zur Eintracht), at Darmstadt; Eclectic Union, Frankfort; Saxony, Dresden; The Sun (Zur Sonne), Bayreuth; The Netherlands, The Hague; National, of Egypt, Cairo. Also the lodges composing "The Free Association of Five Independent Lodges in Germany," viz.: Minerva, of the Three Palms, and Baldwin of the Linden, both at Leipsig; Archimedes of the Three Tracing Boards, Altenburg; Carl of the Wreath of Rue, Hildburghausen; Archimedes of the Eternal Union, Gera.

"The following bodies are deemed to be without authority in Symbolic or Craft Masonry and the members of their obedience ineligible to visit lodges in Illinois: Grand Lodge of Alpina, St. Gallen, Switzerland; Grand Orient of Argentine Republic, Buenos Ayres; Grand Orient of Belgium, Brussels; Grand Orient of Brazil, Rio Janeiro; Grand Orient of Chili, Valparaiso; National Grand Lodge of Denmark, Copenhagen; Grand Orient of France, Paris (interdict); Grand Orient of Greece, Athens; Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary, Budapest; Grand Lodge of Hamburg, Hamburg (interdict); Grand Orient of Italy, Rome; Grand Lodge of Luxembourg; Grand Symbolic Diet of Mexico, its constituent Grand Lodges and all other Grand Lodges in that country; Grand Lodge of Norway, Christiana; United Grand Orient of Lusitania (Portugal), Lisbon; Grand Lodge of Peru, Lima; Independent Grand Lodge of the Dominican Republic, San Domingo; Grand Orient of Spain, Madrid; Grand Lodge of Spain, Cadiz; Grand Lodge of Sweden, Stockholm; Grand Orient of Uruguay, Montivideo; Grand Orient of Venezuela, Caracas; and all supreme councils, or sovereign sanctuaries, or other powers however named, wherever situated, of whatever rite—excepting Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons—assuming to erect lodges with authority to confer the degrees of Symbolic Masonry."

Bro. Robbins' report on Correspondence this year takes the topical form. We can hardly say that it is any

improvement on the old style. Of course any report from the erudite pen of Bro. Robbins is bound to be good and this one is no exception, but we seem to like best the review of each jurisdiction by itself. He approves the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in the recognition of Negro Masons:

"The earnest, judicial and cautious spirit manifested by the Grand Lodge of Washington leaves no doubt that it has entered upon its tentative course in full accord with this view. In nothing is its prudence and its sagacity more apparent than in the second resolution adopted by it, wherein it limits its recognition of the legitimacy of the colored grand lodges named, to the extent and purpose of permitting its constituent lodges and their members to recognize as brother Masons within its own territory, negroes who trace their Masonic descent through them. By this master stroke of a simply historical recognition, the Grand Lodge of Washington steers entirely clear of any cause of umbrage to the grand lodges in fraternal relations with it, within whose jurisdictions these bodies exist, its action emphasizing rather than denying its previous recognition of the full authority of such grand lodges to fix the status of all Masonic bodies found within their borders.

"This is a matter of sincere congratulation, as it insures that the courageous and generous Masons of Washington will be enabled to test the practicability and adequacy of their plan for the solution of a grave problem, undistracted by perplexing complications with any of their sister jurisdictions, but with the hearty God-speed of all thinking Masons, albeit the good wishes of some may not be wholly unmixed with solicitude."

Lodges, 722; members, 54,080; increase, 628.

Edward Cook (Chicago), G.M.

J. H. C. Dill (Bloomington), G. S.

INDIANA.

77th Communication, Indianapolis, May 24, 1898.

Mason J. Niblack, G.M.

He reports five new lodges. We quote two of his decisions:

"Some of the members of Sol. D. Bayless Lodge No. 359 contended that this lodge and all lodges organized prior to the seventies had a right to confer the work at the present time in the same manner in every respect as they had done before the seventies, without regard to whether that work conformed to the regular Indiana work or not.

"It was claimed that this right was given by the Grand Lodge.

"The Worshipful Master of this lodge asked for my decision upon this point, and he further asked me to make an order in the premises that would guide him and all members of the lodge in the future.

"I held that all lodges, no matter at what time they were organized, had to conform to the regular work. I could not find any record whatever showing that any privileges or any rights were given to or withheld from Sol. D. Bayless Lodge No. 359 that were not given to or withheld from any other subordinate lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction. I made an order accordingly, and am informed that my order was cheerfully complied with.

P.G.M. Simeon P. Gillett, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, extended kindly greetings on our behalf and expressed the hope that the Anglo-American alliance may be long continued.

The report of the Grand Secretary is very interesting, and from it we make a few extracts:

"On November 9, 1897, Bourbon Lodge No. 227 passed the following resolution:

"That each member of this lodge who had been a member for five or more years shall be credited with five dollars on his dues."

"Upon complaint being made to me by several members of this lodge, I held this resolution to be null and void, and ordered that it be disregarded, and this order has been complied with."

"A brief review of the past twenty years may not be entirely uninteresting. When you called me to this high and responsible office, May 29, 1878, the Grand Lodge was in debt \$103,666.66, with the sum of \$327.78 in cash in the hands of the Grand Treasurer. Creditors were clamorous for their money. Interest and principal had been defaulted, and the blackness of darkness almost encompassed the Grand Lodge. That year many of the Representatives came up to the Grand Lodge fully expecting to defray their expenses from mileage and per diem, as in the years before, and they were sorely disappointed when the true condition of affairs was laid before them.

"Notwithstanding the fact that the Grand Lodge was sorely distressed financially, and notwithstanding the fact, also, that the members thereof were forced to suffer inconvenience, yet the Freemasons of that Grand Lodge provided for the great debt, which was subsequently paid to the uttermost farthing. This action of the Grand Lodge proves that Indiana Freemasons, like Indiana soldiers, may be relied upon at all times and under all circumstances and conditions." * * *

"Look on the other picture: To-day the Grand Lodge is free from debt—has its property released from mortgage and unincumbered by liens of any sort—has \$30,974.79 securely in-

vested in interest-bearing securities, and it also has a cash balance of \$14,239.68 in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, making sure the fact that all the expenses of this meeting will be paid in cash, and that each member of the Grand Lodge present here to-day will receive his mileage and per diem.

"In the twenty years that I have acted as your servant I have written 14,798 receipts for the collection of the gross sum of \$494,856.91, and I have drawn 1,952 warrants upon the Grand Treasurer for the payment of the total sum of \$480,945.01. Of this sum the members of the Grand Lodge have drawn the gross sum of \$117,806.90 for mileage and per diem.

"To conduct the correspondence and other business connected with my office, I have expended the gross sum of \$4,-848.50 for postage. This sum for postage in a measure shows the extent and magnitude of the duties devolving upon me. As Grand Secretary I have answered thousands upon thousands of letters, telegrams and other communications since May, 1878. Every call made upon my time by a Master Mason has been honored. I have performed the duties of a Dun or a Bradstreet. I have investigated character, and have frequently found myself acting as chief of a bureau of information upon matters entirely foreign to the requirements of my vow of office. I have even been asked to give my opinion upon matters that should be answered by lawyers and for which an attorney would exact a good stiff fee. These things are not related here to be taken or considered as a complaint, but to impress upon your minds the fact that I have enjoyed genuine pleasure in the knowledge that I have rendered you service, which you have duly appreciated, and my pleasure is intensified by the further knowledge that the most humble Master Mason in the State receives as prompt attention as the Grand Master himself. My delight has been and always will be to perform the duties assigned to me in such a way as to meet the approval of the Master Masons of Indiana. Their kindness, forbearance and fraternal courtesies have endeared them to me now, and always." * * *

"The Grand Lodge of Indiana is the peer of any Grand Lodge in the world. Its financial condition is equal to the best, its laws are wholesome, its legislation wise, and its business is transacted in a business-like way. Its annual communications are genuine 'love feasts,' and are characterized by the most cordial and fraternal good will among its members. 'Dissensions are unknown among us, and the heart and tongue unite in promoting each other's welfare and rejoicing in each other's prosperity.'"

P.G.M. Daniel McDonald has prepared a History of Masonry in Indiana which has received the approval of the Grand Lodge and will be published shortly.

In his review of Alabama, Bro. Nicholas R. Ruck!e evokes a thought worthy of our serious consideration.

It is whether the distribution of a large Charity Fund by the Grand Lodge does or does not tend to weaken the proper performance of Masonic duties by lodges and members. Individual giving to cases of necessity is a Masonic duty, and it benefits the giver as much as it does the recipient. It keeps the mind of the giver open to calls. One who never gives is of the meanest nature. Giving encourages liberality both of action and thought. Non-giving narrows the mind, makes a man selfish, and destroys his capability for good. The satisfaction of giving is one of our most supreme enjoyments, and we are enjoined by our vows to practice the Golden Rule.

What is true of individuals in this regard is also true of lodges. A liberal lodge does its duty in charity and encourages its members to do likewise. A penurious lodge will sooner or later be composed of penurious members and its usefulness gone. To stimulate lodges and members to good works should be a function of the Grand Lodge, and if the relief granted by the Grand Lodge has an opposite tendency, it would be better to have no Grand Lodge Charity Fund. Bro. Ruckle says:

"The accumulation and administration of a great charity fund is not one of the original purposes of the Masonic Institution. The power of the Grand Lodge to collect through the particular lodges a per capita tax for its support and maintenance is conceded. The power of the Grand Lodge to tax for the support of institutions of greater or less merit is not unlimited, though there is no statutory prescription. There is a disposition in many instances to raise by Grand Lodge taxation the funds for charitable expenditures which the particular lodges have failed to provide by the assessment of dues against their members. This carries with it the disbursement of charity by a Grand Lodge committee instead of the charity committee of the local lodge, and takes away the saving merit of individual giving, which has more of a Masonic flavor. Who will decide for us whether these provisions are an enlargement or a perversion of the Masonic plan?"

Canada for 1897 appears under the title of "Ontario."

Lodges, 618; members, 29,954; increase, 567.

Simeon S. Johnson (Jeffersonville), G. M.

William H. Smythe (Indianapolis), G. S.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

25th Communication, Vinita, August 9, 1898.

James A. Scott, G.M.

The Grand Master urges the establishment of a Masonic Home. He thinks their lecture system is a failure, too expensive and too laborious for the results obtained, and the attendance too small.

A spontaneous offering of \$56.50 was laid on the altar for their Grand Tyler, who was one of the celebrated Rough Riders at Santiago, and was severely wounded there.

The Hall of Duncan Lodge was destroyed by a cyclone during a "raising."

"The lodge was in session at the time and many of the members were seriously injured, one nearly killed. On motion the dues of Duncan Lodge, \$53.00, were remitted. It is probable that the candidate who was being raised to the degree of Master Mason at the time the cyclone struck the hall realized the truth of the Master's statement that this life is beset by dangers, that life is a rough and a rugged road. He was raised in a manner unlike that of any other Master Mason probably in the history of Masonry."

The Grand Lecturer visited 43 lodges and held Schools of Instruction of from two to three days' duration. The expense to the Grand Lodge was \$790.80.

Thirteen lodges report 49 orphans under their care.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That conducting pool halls and selling hop ale, hop tea, malt tonic, hard cider and like beverages, so-called non-intoxicating drinks, are Masonic offences, and all Masons, affiliated or unaffiliated, in Indian Territory, who are engaged in such business, are fraternally required to close out under penalty of charges, and, if persisted in, of expulsion. All lodges constituent to this Grand Lodge are commanded to see that this edict is put into effect."

Lodges, 88; members, 3,450; increase, 235.

Henry C. Nash (Antlers), G. M.

Joseph S. Morrow (Atoka), G. S.

IOWA.

55th Communication, Council Bluffs, June 7, 1898.

Almon R. Dewey, G. M.

He reports three new lodges and a continuance of harmony and prosperity.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge dues of all members of subordinate lodges who enlist in the army or navy of the

United States in the present war shall be remitted during their term of service; provided, however, the subordinate lodges remit the lodge dues of such members."

The State is to be divided into districts and a School of Instruction in the work held in each district every year. The Schools are to be in charge of the Board of Custodians. Every lodge is to send at least one representative to the School held in its district, and he can receive from the custodian in charge a certificate of his proficiency in the work. The Travelling Custodian receives a salary of \$1,200 and expenses. This action is the outcome of the labors of a special committee appointed to investigate the methods used by other Grand Jurisdictions in imparting instruction in the ritual. They furnish a very valuable report and give a number of good reasons against the adoption of a system using a cipher or key. They recommend the District system as the best and the one in use in a majority of the jurisdictions.

Bro. J. C. W. Coxe presented another of his excellent reports on Correspondence and he has a good notice of Canada for 1897. It is very seldom that we quote any complimentary allusions to our own work, although there are always many such, and for which we are ever grateful, but the delicate appreciation of Bro. Coxe on this occasion is irresistible:

"In one hundred and sixteen pages Brother Henry Robertson presents in his usual felicitous style the report on correspondence, in which he reviews fifty-eight jurisdictions. He digests admirably, and quotes discriminately. We could wish that he were not so chary of his own views on controverted issues; but he may think that 'fools rush in where angels fear to tread,' and prefers the latter company. Our conviction is that the former class would be wonderfully benefited by the presence and counsel of our distinguished brother. His notice of Iowa 1(896) is brief—two pages—but kind and courteous. His reference to this writer is so fraternal that he has the key to our heart. He quotes in full our conclusion concerning the Gran Dieta; and his judicial fairness is shown when, two pages later, he quotes Brother Miller's reasons for the Kansas recognition.

"Fair, candid, courteous, alert to good things, with thorough loyalty to the Craft and its well-established teachings and usages, Brother Robertson's pages are a treasure-house wherein his readers may search and never fail of corn, wine, and oil, wages due to honest toil."

The comments of Bro. Coxe on the action of the Grand Lodge of Idaho in making non-affiliation a Ma-

sonic crime to be punished by expulsion, are correct and forceful:

"We frankly say that we regard this action as erroneous in principle, and likely to be futile in good results. We deny the fundamental assumption, viz.: that non-affiliation is a Masonic offense according to any legitimate construction put upon the ancient regulations or the general usages of the Craft. This whole business of enforced affiliation is a modern heresy, born of commercialism and the pernicious influence of recent 'fraternal' societies, whose badge of fraternity is the dollar mark. How a non-affiliate is 'a menace to the welfare of the order,' or how, being forced into affiliation at the point of the bayonet, he would add anything to its strength and usefulness, surpasses our comprehension. This drastic legislation overlooks the important and vital distinction between Masonic membership and lodge membership, and proposes to put the former in jeopardy whenever one chooses to forego the latter. If one elects to forego lodge privileges and the active duties of lodge membership, it should be his unchallenged privilege so to do. As a non-affiliate he may rightfully be debarred from attendance upon a lodge, or participation in the benefits and privileges which inhere in lodge membership; unless, as in some jurisdictions, he shall pay stipulated annual dues as a condition of good standing; but he cannot rightfully, without a violation of fundamental ethics, be deprived of his Masonic character and standing except after due trial and conviction of a Masonic crime. If non-affiliation is a crime, then every jurisdiction which ever authorized and every lodge which ever issued a demit is a party to the crime. This whole trend of coercive legislation we believe to be radically wrong in principle and ineffectual as a remedy."

Lodges, 482; members, 27,907; increase, 405.

Crom. Bowen (Des Moines), G. M.

T. S. Parvin (Cedar Rapids), G. S.

KANSAS.

43rd Communication, Leavenworth, February 15, 1899.

Maurice L. Stone, G. M.

From the address of the Grand Master we take the following:

"One of the most important events in our year's history is the practical completion of the great work planned and undertaken several years ago by our efficient Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Albert K. Wilson, namely, the Historical Masonic Registry of the membership of this Grand Jurisdiction from the enrollment of the first lodges organized by the M. W. Grand

Lodge of Missouri, in the Territory of Kansas, in the year 1854, to the Masonic work of the lodges of Kansas in 1897.

"Your attention will be specifically called to this matter by the report of our Grand Secretary, and as the registry is here at Grand Lodge for your inspection, will undoubtedly be examined by every Mason present. It speaks for itself, and I do not desire to do more than refer to the subject and call your attention to the duty devolving upon each lodge representative to see to it that his lodge cordially co-operate with our Grand Secretary in the work still to be accomplished in order to make the registry absolutely complete and accurate.

"This registry, as an accomplished fact, is a subject of justifiable pride to every Kansas Mason, not only because its design emanated from our Grand Secretary, but because the possibility of such a registry was seriously doubted by eminent craftsmen in sister Grand Jurisdictions, who were aware of our Grand Secretary's ambition relative thereto.

"It is the only Masonic Grand Lodge Registry of its kind in existence. A number of Grand Jurisdictions possess an Historical Registry arranged in an alphabetical form by lodges, from which it is possible to ascertain the Masonic history of any brother who was ever a member in the jurisdiction, providing the particular lodge with which he was affiliated is indicated. Kansas, however, now possesses the only Masonic Registry in which the entire membership of the jurisdiction, past and present, is alphabetically arranged as a whole, and is consequently the only registry which can promptly and accurately answer such a query as: Was John Henry Smith ever a Mason in Kansas?

"The value of this great work from a Masonic historical standpoint can not be overestimated. The Grand Secretary's report will indicate the lines along which the active co-operation of the lodges is demanded in further prosecution of this work, and I specially commend this portion of his report to your most careful consideration."

The death is announced of Bro. John M. Price, their Senior Past Grand Master, who was long a foremost figure in their ranks and who was greatly esteemed for his ability and devotion to the Craft.

A large delegation of distinguished visitors from the Grand Lodge of Missouri was present at this meeting and added much interest to the proceedings.

Two new lodges received charters.

Their Masonic Home continues its good work. There are 32 inmates, and the per capita expense per week is only \$2.74.

Bro. John C. Postlethwaite furnishes an excellent report on Correspondence, with a good notice of Canada

for 1898. After quoting the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on Negro Lodges, he says:

"We do not desire to enter into a lengthy discussion of the matter, but desire to say that in our judgment the Grand Lodge of Washington out of the generosity of their love and fellowship have committed a grievous error, the effect of which will not be conducive to the good of Masonry. The yielding up of exclusive jurisdiction by the Grand Lodge of Washington will require a new set of ancient charges."

Lodges, 359; members, 20,103; increase, 215.

Henry C. Loomis (Winfield), G.M.

Albert K. Wilson (Topeka), G.S.

KENTUCKY.

99th Communication, Louisville, Oct. 18, 1898.

Reginald H. Thompson, G. M.

He granted a dispensation for an Army Lodge to be connected with the First Kentucky Volunteer Regiment, with no territorial jurisdiction and limited to citizens of Kentucky in the Volunteer service.

The following paragraphs from the address of the Grand Master on the proper qualifications of candidates contain lessons of wisdom worthy of being studied by all:

"I cannot close this address without most earnestly insisting upon a severer scrutiny into the lives and characters of those who petition for initiation. Their habits, their associates, their peculiarities should all be scrutinized most carefully before a committee should make a favorable report. A careless, unfaithful Committee of Investigation is the deadliest enemy to the prosperity of Masonry, and even conscientious committees forget that it is the internal, and not the external man they are to investigate; what he is, and not what he is reported to be; in other words, his character, and not his reputation. Too many are admitted up on mere negative qualifications. The applicant may be apparently free from any open vice, not intemperate, not untruthful, not dishonest in public estimation. He may be of good social position, intelligent, rich; all these qualities he may have, and still be totally unworthy to be a member of a band of brothers, whose sole aim is to build up character and spread the cement of brotherly love. He may have all these outward qualifications, and still be wholly selfish, covetous, envious, censorious, a lover of gossip, eager to hear and ready to repeat the whispers of evil report. He may be swift to anger and slow to conciliate, a man of filthy conversation, of un-

scrupulous will, one who 'keeps the word of promise to the ear and breaks it to the hope.' These are things which show the heart, and Masonry deals with the hearts of men. Can such a man be temperate, prudent, brave, just? Can he be said to possess the four perfect points of entrance? Surely not. He is unworthy.

"What, then, constitutes worthiness in the Masonic sense, who is worthy? Let the Great Light answer.

"'Even he who leads an uncorrupt life; and speaketh the truth from his heart. He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, and hath not slandered his neighbor. He that swear-eth unto his neighbor and disappointeth him not; though it be to his own hindrance.' 'The man whose heart is clean, and whose words are pure, and guided with discretion. The man who considereth the poor and needy, and is ready to do good to all men according to his abilities and opportunities.' In short, a man of faith, who 'fears God and keeps His commandments.' Such a man may have neither wealth nor social position. He may be humble and poor. He may have little or no intellectual training, but he will give dignity and worth to the Masonic institution, for the law of his God is in his heart, and 'the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding.' This is the picture of the upright man as drawn by the G. A. O. T. U. on the Trestle Board of Masonry—the Great Light by which we work, and it is the true and only standard of worthiness in those who seek admission to the mystic circle of our brotherhood. If I could induce our committees of investigation to adopt this standard, and recommend none who does not, in some measure at least, come up to its requirements, then I should feel that my year of office has not been in vain, for I shall have done a service to our order which would be inestimable in its results. Brethren, let us raise the standard and make Masonry in fact what it is in theory, and in the exalted lessons which lie concealed in all its ceremonies, its allegories, and its symbols, the purest, highest system of ethics devised by man, to realize the Divine order of society.

"A Mason without faith is a lamp without oil—a blind leader of the blind, in whom there is neither light nor life.

"Brethren, what is the use of placing the Great Light on your altars if you never read it? There is not a form, a ceremony, an allegory, or a symbol in Masonry, that does not find its true interpretation in the pages of the Holy Book. Its words are truth. They are life. They only contain the promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. When Masonry ceases to be the handmaid of religion it becomes an empty sham—a waste of time."

Over \$40,000 has been subscribed for the erection of an Old Masons Home and Infirmary in connection with their Widows' and Orphans' Home.

The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That in view of the action in regard to Negro

Masonry, taken by the Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons at its last Communication, this Grand Lodge hereby declares non-intercourse between its subordinates and members, and the said Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members."

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge puts its seal of condemnation upon all private individuals or companies using Masonic emblems or the term Masonic as a preface in their advertised business, and that such practice be considered a Masonic offense in this Grand Jurisdiction and subject the user to trial by his own or the Grand Lodge of Kentucky."

Lodges, 464; members, 18,402; decrease, 62.

James E. Wilhelm (Paducah), G. M.

H. B. Grant (Louisville), G. S.

LOUISIANA.

87th Communication, New Orleans, Feb. 13, 1899.

A. C. Allen, G. M.

The tone of the address is hopeful, although their difficulties are serious:

"It is with regret that I am compelled to inform you that Masonry in this State has not progressed in numbers appreciably since your last Grand Communication.

"In eras of financial stress, which carry with them depression in every branch of industry, and impoverish or embarrass the masses, Masonry cannot, in the nature of things, prosper numerically. Accession to our ranks grow less, and many valuable members of our lodges, under such embarrassment, either secure demits, or are forced to suffer themselves to be suspended on account of an inability to pay the dues assessed against them. The last year has especially been one of trial to our local craft. In one section of our State, while the harvest has been fair, if not bountiful, they have been forced to sell the product of their labor below the cost of production—the laborer has been compelled at times to work below a living price. The natural sequence of these conditions is this depression, this want of healthful activity. In another portion of the commonwealth excessive and continued rains have materially injured the crops, and pestilence, with its concomitant ills, has added to the misfortune of the people.

"Notwithstanding these unfavorable conditions of affairs, the morale of the Order is excellent, and its usefulness has been borne onward under the faithful guidance and loyalty of the subordinate lodges. Their duties have been well performed—their energies have been unlagging. Let us be hopeful that the coming Masonic year will be auspicious of a brighter era, and let us confidently send forth the message that, while God reigns in the hearts of men, Maonry will live and prosper."

Their financial troubles were met by the adoption of the following resolution:

"Brethren—We, your Special Committee, to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address relative to the financial condition of the Grand Lodge and statements of facts relative to deficits in the revenues, and consequent inability to pay current expenses various taxes, and at the same time retire Grand Lodge bonds in accordance with pledges made to do so, now desire, after full consideration and discussion of the very grave matter submitted to us for the most feasible solution thereof, beg to present to you the following resolutions, and recommend their adoption:

"Resolved, That there be, and hereby is levied a special assessment of one dollar per capita on each and every member of the fraternity throughout our Grand Jurisdiction for the year 1899, in addition to the one dollar now required.

"Resolved further, That there be, and hereby is levied for a period of four consecutive years, beginning with the year 1900 and ending with the year 1903, inclusive, an annual special assessment per capita of fifty cents on each and every member of the fraternity throughout the jurisdiction; the same, payable by the lodges to the Grand Lodge, and to be paid with the regular dues at the usual time of sending in returns by the lodges.

"And together, with the foregoing, your committee, having in view the fact that expenses of the Grand Lodge are more likely, at least, to some extent, to decrease rather than to increase, and whereas, the revenues, should the offices and stores be all hereafter rented to better advantage, may possibly yield an increase, your committee recommend the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby pledges itself to repeal the resolution levying the assessment above recommended before the expiration of the full term for which the same is levied, if the condition of the finances of the Grand Lodge at any time warrant."

The recognition of clandestine Negro Masons by the Grand Lodge of Washington was treated in a very temperate manner and condemned mainly on the ground of the exclusive jurisdiction of Grand Lodges. The following was adopted:

"Resolved, That the representative of this Grand Lodge, near that of the Grand Lodge of Washington, be withdrawn, and our constituent lodges are hereby forbidden to receive any Mason hailing from a lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of Washington. This edict to remain in full force and effect until such Grand Lodge cease to recognize clandestine-made Masons."

The Grand Lodges of New Zealand and Tasmania were recognized.

Lodges, 132; members, 5,415; increase, 3.

A. C. Allen (Franklin), G. M.

Richard Lambert (New Orleans), G. S.

MAINE.

79th Communication, Portland, May 3, 1898.

Joseph A. Locke, G.M.

The subordinates are generally prosperous and the attendance at lodge better. This is partly the result of the Conventions held for instruction. Three new lodges were formed.

The transactions were local in interest.

Bro. J. H. Drummond reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1897. On the jurisdiction over rejected candidates he asks the question, "Is one year a sufficient time for the observation of a stranger coming from another jurisdiction who has been rejected in that jurisdiction, to determine his fitness for admission into Masonry?" and in his review of Vermont he says:

"It has already transpired that the proposition of the Grand Lodge of Maine has met with a much higher degree of favor than we had ever expected that it would receive at the outset. It is true that certain Grand Lodges had already taken action in the same direction, and we do not claim that the action, which has been taken, is in response to the action of our own Grand Lodge. But that is a matter of no consequence whatever, provided that the action shall be taken.

"He will know that he is in error as to the probability that all the jurisdictions holding to perpetuity will reject it, because two notable instances to the contrary have already happened. Massachusetts and New York have both abandoned the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction and have both affirmed that they will respect the status given to a rejected candidate by the laws of the jurisdiction where he is rejected. We desire to say further, as we have already said, that the limit of five years was taken because that was our law, but we have repeatedly stated that we fully believe that the Grand Lodge of Maine will modify it if that shall stand at all in the way of such a settlement of this question as will prevent discord in the future.

"Our brother accedes to the main point involved, as will be seen by what he has written, and that is really the vital part of the Maine proposition. While we believe that a longer time than one year should be required before any other than the rejecting lodge should receive the petition of a candidate without the consent of the latter, still that is a matter for each jurisdiction to decide for itself.

"We think he misapprehends one point in our last report. We do not object to the law of the Grand Lodge of Vermont in relation to candidates which come from other jurisdictions, except to this extent, that we do not believe that it is according to sound Masonic principle to recognize that a lodge has any jurisdiction over a candidate who has never applied to it, after he removes from its jurisdiction. It was, therefore, on this ground that we objected to the use of the word 'consent'; but we do think that if a man is to be made a Mason in a new jurisdiction in less than a year it would be an act of prudence to ask from the lodge, in whose jurisdiction he had resided, its opinion of his fitness."

Our law is that "no person shall be made a Mason unless he has resided one year in the jurisdiction of the lodge to which he seeks admission, or produces a certificate of character from the lodge nearest to the place of his previous residence," and that no petition from a rejected candidate can be received within twelve months from the date of such rejection. We have had this law for a long time and it has always worked well. We have never heard of any difficulty arising from the one-year limit being too short a time to arrive at a correct knowledge of the character of an applicant. Rejections are not by any means always evidences of demerit, and if any bad material had been admitted in that way it would certainly have been made manifest during the long series of years in which that has been our practice. The conclusion would seem to be that a longer period than one year is unnecessary.

Lodges, 192; members, 22,191; increase, 106.

Joseph A. Locke (Portland), G. M.

Stephen Berry (Portland), G.S.

MANITOBA.

23rd Communication, Winnipeg, June 8, 1898.

Thomas Robinson, G.M.

The duties of the Grand Master were performed in no perfunctory manner. His visits covered a wide extent of country and the lodges must have been greatly benefitted by his numerous lectures on Masonic subjects. A new lodge was opened at Wawanesa. On the state of the Craft, he says:

"It is pleasing to note from the various reports of the R. W. District Deputy Grand Masters that there is a steady increase

in the material prosperity of the Order. Increased insurances on the property of various lodges is a healthy indication of this improvement. Many lodges also have erected, and own, their own halls, thereby establishing a Masonic home in their locality. The establishment of these Masonic homes is to be strongly commended as one of the best means of cementing more closely the associations of the brethren. They will naturally take a greater pride in their own building, more interest in meetings and social gatherings, all of which do so much good in promoting good feeling and making the brethren better acquainted with each other.

"I would specially direct your favorable consideration to the report of R. W. Bro. Dr. R. S. Thornton, District Deputy Grand Master, District No. 4. This brother is one of our most zealous and best skilled Masons, takes a very great interest in disseminating Masonic information, and therefore any suggestions from him I know will receive the consideration which they deserve. I have already referred to the lectures given under the auspices of the Winnipeg lodges. It is gratifying to see that the suggestions made by Most Worshipful Brother Locke in his last address in regard to Lodges of Instruction have been duly appreciated, and that there is all over the jurisdiction a greater desire to promote Masonic gatherings, to listen to lectures, discussions on Masonic and kindred subjects, and also social gatherings. There is also a growing desire to associate ladies and friends of the brethren at these gatherings whenever possible to do so. This is an object which I think is to be highly commended. It is in this way that our lodges will become, to quote the words of a distinguished Masonic divine, 'a school for the display of virtue. Temperance, in the restraint that we place on our language and behaviour. Patience, in the industry with which we cultivate a knowledge of ritual, and obedience to the rulers and powers that be. Improvement in social culture and the study of the vast outspreading field of Masonic literature. And what shall I say of friendship? Some of the most treasured friendships of a life have been made in a Masonic lodge. It is one of its brightest phases as we grow older; one, too, that I am sure is the experience of not a few who are here to-day, that we can look back with unalloyed and lasting pleasure on friendships with men, whom we should never have known at all but for Freemasonry.' I am all the more pleased and gratified to impress upon your minds this growing interest in Craft Masonry and its associations, because it is impossible not to feel that Craft Masonry proper suffers somewhat from the attractions of other Masonic bodies. I have never gone beyond the Royal Arch myself, and trust that this will not be taken as any reflection on my part against such bodies. I have a very sincere respect for the other bodies and I cherish the hope that some day I may be privileged to participate in some of their beautiful ceremonies. I can also testify to the fact that brethren who are distinguished in these spheres are, as a rule,

equally distinguished in Craft Masonry and are energetic Masons. On the other hand, my experience leads me to feel that there is a good deal of force in my remarks as affecting the average Mason. A short time ago I strongly advised a young friend of mine, who had just been initiated, not to go into such bodies until he had passed through the offices of a regular lodge, and had so thoroughly grounded himself in Craft Masonry, impressing on him that he would be a better Mason for it, and that the other bodies which his Masonic zeal would eventually lead him to join would be all the more benefitted. I know cases where brethren who have been rushed forward have lost their interest in Masonry largely through the multiplicity of degrees, and the difficulty of a young Mason properly filling more than one office at a time. While this is a matter in which I cannot presume in any way to dictate, I would, however, commend my reflections to your thoughtful consideration."

Steps were taken to establish a fund, of which the interest is to be devoted to the support of aged and disabled Masons.

The Library received a grant of \$200. Under the watchful care of Bro. W. G. Scott, this valuable feature is in a first-class condition, and it should be heartily appreciated.

The Constitution was revised, a large number of amendments being made and among them, the abolition of the Board of General Purposes, its place being taken by eight Standing Committees of five members each. These committees are thus chosen:

"27. The said committees shall be appointed in the following manner, viz.: At each Annual Communication a nominating committee shall be appointed by the Grand Master, one brother from each district represented, who shall be a resident thereof, and three at large; which nominating committee shall immediately, on the declaration of their appointment, proceed to select from among the members of Grand Lodge five brethren to serve upon each of such standing committees, and shall submit such selection for the approval of Grand Lodge. No brother shall be selected to serve on more than one committee. All vacancies occurring shall be filled by appointment of the Grand Master."

Lodges, 59; members, 2,669; increase, 26.

George B. Murphy (Moosomin), G. M.

William G. Scott (Winnipeg), G. S.

MARYLAND.

112th Communication, Baltimore, Nov. 15, 1898.

Thomas J. Shryock, G. M.

We quote the opening paragraphs of his address :

"It is indeed, with sincerest pleasure that I welcome you to this Annual Communication of our beloved Grand Lodge, and to assure you that harmony any peace prevail within our borders. Discord and confusion is, indeed, unknown amongst the Craft. Our lodges are all in a flourishing and prosperous condition; our financial condition is improving gradually; our income is increasing, and our debt is being gradually liquidated. We have passed over the rough road of financial adversity, and are on the highway to prosperity. Nothing, it appears to me, can interfere with our future success and advancement, and the good work to be done by the fraternity in this State for the amelioration of the condition of men must press upward and onward.

"Through the Grand Lecturer I learn that the lodges outside the city of Baltimore are in as prosperous condition as those within its limits, whose prosperity is reported by the Board of Grand Inspectors, who have been attentive to their duty and prompt in the discharge of all work presented to them for inspection."

Two new lodges were formed and also an Army Lodge which the Grand Master afterwards visited at Fortress Monroe, Virginia. Among its members are the Grand Lecturer, a Grand Inspector of Workings and a Past Senior Grand Warden.

On the negro question the following resolutions were adopted :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Maryland hereby reaffirms its adherence to the doctrine of Grand Lodge Territorial Jurisdiction; that is to say, a Grand Lodge first organized in a State or Territory has the supreme control over symbolic Masonry and is the sole judge of what are, or are not, legitimate Masonic organizations within its territorial limits.

"Resolved, That this doctrine having been acquiesced in by every American Grand Lodge, and the experience of a century having proven that it is a wise and wholesome doctrine, by which the Grand Lodges have been enabled to dwell together in peace and harmony, the Grand Lodge of Maryland views with regret and alarm the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in the abrogation and setting aside of this doctrine by the recognition of dual Grand Lodges in a large number of the jurisdictions of our country.

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Maryland fraternally, but most earnestly, trusts that the Grand Lodge of Washing-

ton will, at its next Annual Communication, reconsider said action, and thereby promote that peace and harmony which has ever characterized the family of American Grand Lodges."

It was decided to await more specific information before recognizing the Grand Orient of Belgium.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

R.W. Bro. Harry A. Collins, P.D.D.G.M. of Canada, was introduced and received a fraternal welcome.

Notwithstanding the untimely loss of his eyesight and his urgent request to be relieved, Bro. Edward T. Schultz was reappointed Chairman of Correspondence for the thirteenth time. At a special meeting of the Grand Lodge called for the purpose on St. John's Day, a beautiful Loving Cup was presented to Bro. Schultz as a recognition of his long and valuable services. We earnestly sympathize with Bro. Schultz in his affliction and also congratulate him on the evident love and esteem in which he is held by his brethren.

Lodges, 103; members, 7,784; increase, 191.

Thomas J. Shryock (Baltimore), G. M.

Jacob H. Medairy (Baltimore), G.S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At the Quarterly Communication held on June 8, 1898, the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

The corner-stone of the new Temple in Boston was laid with the most imposing ceremonies.

Sept. 14, 1898. The following plan for the more rapid increase of the Masonic Education and Charity Fund was ordered to be submitted to the lodges:

"That each and every member of the lodges in Massachusetts under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall pay to the Secretary of his lodge a charity contribution of one dollar per year for ten years, and the amount so collected by the Secretary each year shall be paid by him to the Treasurer of the lodge, who shall pay it to the District Deputy Grand Master at the time that official makes his annual examination of the lodge. In cases where a lodge is obliged to remit the dues of any of its members, the Master and Wardens shall have authority to remit this charity contribution. The Secretary of the lodge shall report such action and the amount so remitted each year to the District Deputy Grand Master of the district in which the lodge is located.

"After the first year, one-fourth of the amount collected the previous year shall be devoted to the relief of worthy desti-

tute Masons, their widows and orphans, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; the balance of the amount collected shall be promptly paid into the treasury of the Masonic Education and Charity Trust, and, together with the interest accruing during the term of the contributions, shall form a permanent constituent part of the principal of the Charity Fund.

"Lodges having calls for charity where the relief needed would constitute an excessive demand upon the resources of the lodge may make application under the seal of the lodge to the Trustees of the Charity Fund for the amount necessary, stating the name of the person for whose relief the money is requested, also the circumstances connected with the case. The sum appropriated by the Trustees of the Charity Fund for such relief shall be sent to the lodge and expended under the supervision of the Master of the lodge."

An eloquent tribute to the memory of Bro. Charles Levi Woodbury, one of their most beloved brethren, who died in July, 1898, was presented by a special committee. "He will always be remembered for the wisdom of his counsel, the warmth of his friendship, the cordiality of his greeting, the brilliancy and wit which have illuminated so many of our festive meetings."

The annual address of the Grand Master was delivered at the Quarterly meeting held at Boston, Dec. 14, 1898, which is designated the 165th Annual Communication.

The Grand Master visited a large number of lodges. Three lodges celebrated their Centennial Anniversaries during the year. Exemplifications were held in twelve districts with good attendance. The new Temple is nearing completion.

The Committee on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on Negro Masonry presented a valuable report, re-stating the facts as to the origin of the present Negro lodges, and concluding with the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, while recognizing the right of the freeborn negro to solicit the privileges of Masonry, as equal to that of the freeborn white man, hereby renews its refusal of Masonic recognition to persons, lodges or Grand Lodges, deriving their Masonic lineage from a certain Prince Hall, who unwarrantably assumed the function of a Provincial Grand Master over this and neighboring States in which Grand Lodges already existed.

"Resolved, That we protest against the recent recognition by the Grand Lodge of Washington of such spurious Masons and Masonic bodies.

"Resolved, That we also protest against the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Washington sanctioning the possible establishment of a Grand Lodge of co-ordinate jurisdiction in that State, based upon principles which we believe would be fatal to the fraternal and social advantages of Masonry.

"Resolved, That we fraternally demand of the Grand Lodge of Washington a speedy reconsideration of its entire action upon the subject of Negro Masonry in the United States."

Lodges, 235; members, 39,334; increase, 849.

Charles C. Hutchinson (Boston), G. M.

Sereno D. Nickerson (Boston), G. S.

MICHIGAN.

55th Communication, Port Huron, January 24, 1899.

James Bradley, G.M.

Our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, was present in his official capacity as the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan and his remarks were received with hearty rounds of applause.

Port Huron is the residence of their oldest Past Grand Master, Bro. William T. Mitchell, who, although over 81 years of age, attended the session to the delight of the brethren.

The address of the Grand Master proves him to be a thorough workman. The Craft has greatly flourished under his supervision. Two new lodges were formed. Their visit to Toronto is thus noted:

"On July 20th, accompanied by the Grand Lodge officers (but two) and P. G. M. McGrath, and brethren from Detroit, Bay City and Port Huron, I visited the Grand Lodge of Canada at Toronto.

"We were met at the depot by R. W. Brother Hungerford (our representative near the Grand Lodge of Canada), and a committee of Past Grand Masters, who took us in charge and escorted us to the hotel, and from that time until we left they vied with each other in doing everything in their power to make our visit a pleasant one.

"We were present at the opening of their Grand Lodge and were received with that cordial welcome our Canadian brethren know so well how to extend. R. W. Bro. Frank T. Lodge, in an appropriate address, presented the Grand Lodge of Canada with a gavel composed of Michigan oak and a part of the boathook belonging to the gig of Capt. Sigsbee, of the U. S. S. Maine, as a souvenir of our visit."

The Grand Lecturer held 55 Lodges of Instruction during the year. They were all very largely attended.

and much interest was manifested by the brethren. The ten largest schools had an average attendance of 327, and the total attendance was 10,711.

They have lost by death a Past Grand Master, Daniel Striker, and a Past Grand Secretary, Foster Pratt, who was Grand Secretary in 1874, and compiled their first book of laws.

On Negro Masonry the following report was adopted :

" Your special committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington at its last communication, on the subject of Negro Masonry, so-called, beg leave to report:

" The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on this question is one of great importance to the Grand Lodges of this country, far-reaching in its conclusions and tends to unsettle the Masonic law governing Grand Lodges since 1872. To properly investigate this question and present it to Grand Lodge for action requires far more time than your committee has at its command, as it does not believe in severing Masonic and fraternal relations with a Sovereign Grand Body hastily and without due investigation. Your committee therefore, in the most fraternal spirit of brotherly love, asks our Sister Grand Lodge of Washington, at its Annual Communication, to review its action on this question, and in the interest of harmony repeal its action and spread the cement of brotherly love, that will reunite the great Sisterhood of Grand Lodges into one grand and complete whole, among who no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.

" Your committee, relying upon the kindness and forgiving disposition of this Grand Lodge, which is ever ready to cover mistakes and extend the loyal right hand of fellowship, requests that it have until the next Annual Communication to make its report; and in earnest hope that ere that time the cause for a report will be done away with by the fraternal action of the Grand Lodge of Washington."

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and notices Canada for 1898. He gives tables showing "what it costs to run Grand Lodges." The 50 American Grand Lodges vary in the cost per capita from \$6.60 in Idaho to 31 cents in New Hampshire. The average cost per capita is about 90 cents.

Lodges, 388; members, 40,387; increase, 830.

Frank T. Lodge (Detroit), G. M.

Jefferson S. Conover (Coldwater), G. S.

MINNESOTA.

46th Communication, St. Paul, January 11, 1899.

Alonzo T. Stebbins, G. M.

He declined to issue a dispensation for an Army Lodge. He reports three new lodges, one in Minneapolis starting with over 100 members. On one of his visits he conferred the third degree on his only son. The District Deputies are highly praised. More lodges have been visited than ever before and the good results were apparent.

The Grand Master says that the Grand Lodge of Washington has grievously erred in recognizing the Negro Lodges. The Committee on that subject presented the following report:

"The Committee on Ancient Landmarks, to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as relates to the action of the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington pertaining to colored Masonry, have had the same under consideration, and report that they do not feel warranted in passing judgment on said action without full access to the arguments, claims and history presented to that Grand Body, and without time to prosecute a full and fair investigation of the true merits of the case. From the address it seems that the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Georgia and Delaware have taken no action upon this matter, evidently preferring a thorough examination prior to the announcement of conclusions reached.

"So far as colored Freemasonry in this jurisdiction is concerned, its status was fully defined and affirmed by this Grand Lodge in 1877, as appears in the printed proceedings of that year, page 36."

The report on Correspondence by Bro. Irving Todd is a model of condensation. Canada for 1897 and 1898 receives due attention.

Lodges, 211; members, 15,908; increase, 189.

Alonzo T. Stebbins (Rochester), G.M.

Thomas Montgomery (St. Paul), G. S.

MISSISSIPPI.

80th Communication, Water Valley, February 10, 1898.

John S. Cobb, G.M.

It gives him great pleasure to state that—

"The Mystic Trowel has been put to its own proper use of spreading the cement of Friendship and Brotherly Love, and has been so little perverted to the unholy purpose of digging out that cement from between the stones that comparatively little call has been made upon the Executive."

Despite the flood and the yellow fever, which thoroughly paralyzed all kinds of business and travel, they are alive, prosperous and happy. These great calamities tested their principles and drew them closer together. Six new lodges were opened. Gratitude is strongly in evidence for the numerous contributions sent in to aid the yellow fever sufferers, and the Grand Master also says that Bro. J. L. Power, their dearly-beloved Grand Secretary—

"Deserves our kindest remembrance and tenderest regard for his able, efficient and untiring services. If he had had half a chance, I think he would have gone into the thickest of the fight to nurse and succor the sufferers."

In Bro. Power's report we find the following testimony of his thorough devotion to duty, even in the midst of danger—an instance of true heroism—and an ability to rise to the occasion not often witnessed:

"Your Grand Secretary was honored by the Grand Master with a commission to represent him at the laying of the corner-stone of the new school building in West Jackson. An elaborate programme of speeches, music, etc., had been arranged, and an elegant copper box had been packed with records of the city, State and country generally; but on the day when all this was to take place, September 14, a large majority of the people of Jackson were leaving town, and they didn't stand on the order of their going. But as the stone was very handsome, from a Georgia quarry, and the inscription declared that it was laid on that day by Grand Master Cobb, I went out there, and with the workmen and a few others as spectators, I laid the stone in the shortest form ever used on such an occasion. Some of the school patrons, after they got back, suggested that the ceremony still take place, but the stone was laid and it couldn't be any laider."

The Digest compiled by Bro. Frederic Speed is to be published and distributed to the lodges. The Grand Secretary suggests that when it gets circulated it shall be "out of order to ask or answer any questions on Masonic law for the next ten years."

A committee was appointed to ascertain the best inducements offered by towns for the location of their proposed Masonic Home.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. Andrew H. Barkley and reviews Canada for 1897.

Lodges, 270; members, 9,010; increase, 84.

John M. Stone (Jackson), G. M.

J. L. Power (Jackson), G. S.

MISSOURI.

78th Communication, St. Louis, Oct. 18, 1898.

Flavius J. Tygard, G. M.

Seven State Lodges of Instruction were held by the Grand Lecturer and were well attended. Eight new lodges were formed. The Grand Master refused a dispensation for an Army Lodge. They have 55 District Deputies and they all reported except one. With very few exceptions all the lodges are prosperous.

The following amendment to the Grand Lodge By-laws was adopted by a vote of 140 to 136:

"It is incompetent for any lodge in this jurisdiction to confer either of the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry on any person whose physical defects are such as to prevent him from receiving and imparting the ceremonies of the several degrees. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to render anyone ineligible to the privileges of Masonry, who can, by the aid of artificial appliances, conform to the necessary ceremonies."

Objections to advancement are hereafter to stand good for sixty days only.

They have 107 inmates in the Masonic Home. The question of maintaining children and old people together has not yet been fully solved. The year past was successful, with no serious trouble, and the health and happiness of the residents was all that could be hoped for.

The Committee on the Gran Dieta of Mexico asked a continuance until next year, which was granted.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence. Our Proceedings of 1897 have a good notice.

Lodges, 564; members, 31,360; increase, 699.

E. F. Allen (Kansas City), G. M.

John D. Vincil (St. Louis), G. S.

MONTANA.

34th Communication, Helena, Sept. 14, 1898.

Edward C. Day, G. M.

The remarks of the Grand Master on the evil of discussing Masonic matters with profanes are well worthy of serious attention, as this evil is not confined to any one particular jurisdiction, and it should be checked wherever it makes its appearance:

"At home the year has been prosperous. Most of the lodges are in a very healthy condition and peace and harmony prevail. Some few are in a lethargic condition, owing to local causes of depression or changes in membership, while in a few, I regret to say, Masonic trials are creating discord and disorder, which can only be removed by years of earnest work and a forgiving spirit. There is an alarming increase in the disposition to discuss Masonic matters in public. Rarely does it happen that differences in the lodge are not known by the general public as early as by the members. The secrets of the ballot are no longer securely guarded, and brethren who express an opinion upon Masonic matters are often called to task by profanes for such expressions. Brethren, this evil has grown too large. It must be stopped at once or radical measures will have to be used to check it. The brother who exposes to a profane the results of any proceeding pending before a Masonic lodge is guilty of a violation of his Masonic obligation, and it is only the charity of his brethren that permits such action to go unpunished. It is such conduct as this that brings scandal upon the Order. Permit me at this time to recall to you the language of 'The Ancient Charges,' governing your conduct in the presence of strangers not Masons. 'You shall be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the honor of the Worshipful Fraternity.'"

Five new lodges were opened, the largest number in any one year in their history.

They have 657 bound volumes in their Grand Lodge Library, including a full set of the valuable publications of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati.

The Grand Orient of Belgium and the Grand Lodge of Egypt were recognized.

A proposal to reduce the representation in Grand Lodge was lost.

The completion of Bro. Cornelius Hedges' twenty-fifth year of service as Grand Secretary was worthily annotated by an increase of salary and by the presentation to him by the Grand Lodge of a silver inkstand, with warm expressions of love and esteem. May his shadow never grow less.

His review of Canada for 1897 is courteous and fraternal.

Lodges, 47; members, 2,850; increase, 144.

Charles W. Pomery (Kalispell), G. M.

Cornelius Hedges (Helena), G. S.

NEBRASKA.

41st Communication, Omaha, June 15, 1898.

John B. Dinsmore, G. M.

He decided that a man who is on a saloon petition is not a fit man to be made a Mason, and also that it is unmasonic for a Mason to sign a saloon petition. We presume that these decisions are in logical sequence with their previous action on the liquor question, but they carry the interference with the liberty of the subject to a further extent than has hitherto been done, and here it would be deemed entirely unwarrantable.

The Grand Master also decided that a lodge could suspend a brother who asks in open lodge to be suspended because he was unable to pay his dues. Sooner than have had the reputation of procuring such a ruling, we would have passed round the hat and placed the brother in good standing.

The Grand Custodian held 42 Lodges of Instruction of three days each, four of two days each, and he visited twelve lodges singly. The lodges are generally prosperous and have plenty of work.

The Jurisprudence Committee brought in majority and minority reports on the "saloon" decisions mentioned above, and after a general discussion the matter was postponed till next session.

Lodges, 229; members, 11,775; increase, 12.

Frank H. Young (Broken Bow), G. M.

William R. Bowen (Omaha), G. S.

NEVADA.

34th Communication, Carson City, June 14, 1898.

Albert Lackey, G. M.

The Craft is fairly prosperous and the work is well performed, but lacks uniformity. On the motives for rejection, Bro. Lackey says:

"While a Mason has the undoubted right to use the black-ball without having his motive questioned or the fact inquired into, yet he should never allow his personal feelings or prejudices to carry him so far as to cast a negative ballot upon the application of one whom he knows to be worthy.

"When a brother enters a lodge he should leave in the outer world all questions of sectarianism, business rivalry, personal prejudice and ill-will, and regard applicants for our mysteries for their qualities of mind and heart, and deal as justly with them as we are taught to do in personal business relations, and to vote without fear, favor or prejudice, but alone for the good of the fraternity."

The Gran Dieta of Mexico and the Grand Orient of Belgium were both recognized.

Bro. A. D. Bird reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1897.

Lodges, 20; members, 837; increase, 5.

Matthew Kyle (Virginia City, G. M.

Chauncey N. Noteware (Carson City), G. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

31st Communication, St. John, August 23, 1898.

Thomas Walker, G.M.

Harmony prevails. The Grand Master made a number of official visitations and found the work generally well done.

The subject of the decreasing membership in the lodges was referred to a special committee, who reported as follows:

"Your committee, to whom was referred decrease in membership, beg leave to report as follows:

"1st. That the falling off in membership is due to lack of interest, which leads to non-payment of dues, suspensions, retiring on demit, etc.

"2nd. Past Masters having no official duties lose their interest.

"3rd. Members are made without being called upon to pass examinations.

"4th. Officers are advanced who do not make an effort to get up the work, the only object being to get through the chair.

"5th. That Grand Lodge is not made interesting enough to members.

"Therefore your committee would make the following suggestions:

"1st. That Worshipful Masters be requested to see that no candidate be advanced who has not passed a successful ex-

amination; that no appointive officer be advanced who is not posted in his work, and that he personally interest himself in seeing that the members attend; that in the absence of degree work the Worshipful Master instruct the lodge, calling upon Past Masters as much as possible to assist him.

"2nd. That the Board of General Purposes be authorized to engage a Lecturer, whose duty it will be to visit, instruct, and aid in every way subordinate lodges.

"3rd. That your committee is of opinion that monthly or quarterly collection of dues would be beneficial, and that the relief from dues after twenty-one years is good.

"4th. That Grand Lodge meet in the morning, getting through with routine work, and giving as much time as possible to discussion on the Order; that while exemplifying degrees is entertaining, the time might be spent more profitably.

"5th. That as it is generally believed the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia is running on successful lines, your committee would suggest to the Board of General Purposes that they send a committee of three to the next meeting of Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia with instructions to get all possible information and report to this Grand Lodge.

"That your committee, while personally satisfied with the present plan, believe that the itinerancy of Grand Lodge would be beneficial, and recommend that the Board of General Purposes take this matter into consideration."

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

Lodges, 32; members, 1,757; decrease, 24.

Thomas Walker (St. John), G.M.

J. Twining Hartt (St. John), G.S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

109th Communication, Concord, May 18, 1898.

Henry A. Marsh, G.M.

On their proposed Masonic Home, he says:

"I had hoped to be able to report to the brethren at this time that the whole amount necessary had been raised for the construction of a suitable building for a Masonic Orphans' Home, upon a lot which has been purchased in the city of Manchester, by the trustees of the corporation, with the tacit understanding that the brethren of Manchester should pay for the lot.

"At the Semi-Annual Communication in December I conferred with as many of the Masters of lodges as could be conveniently assembled, and several of them pledged their lodges to raise a sum equal to \$1.00 for each member.

"Since that time I have received notice from four lodges that an amount equal to or in excess of \$1.00 per member has actually been raised and is subject to the order of the Grand Master, to be used for the construction of a building upon

land free from encumbrance. I have information from other lodges that apart of the money has been paid or pledged, and I doubt not that by earnest efforts, properly directed, the Home can be completed within the next year.

"Brethren, it is my deliberate judgment that the consummation of this work has been too long delayed. The good name of the fraternity demands that if the Corporation of the Masonic Orphans' Home, in its semi-official character, is unable to complete the work which it undertook more years ago than I am willing to mention at this time, the Grand Lodge should take up the project and push to an early completion this work of love and charity, which must commend itself to the heart of every Mason."

The valuable reports of the District Deputies show faithful performance of their important duties. The lodges are in good condition and the utmost harmony prevails.

In his review of Maine, Bro. A. S. Wait has the following remarks on the powers of the Grand Master. The ruling formerly criticized was one in which the Grand Master ordered a lodge to change a sentence it had imposed on a conviction:

"We do not doubt and we have never questioned the power of the Grand Master, everywhere, to arrest the charter of a lodge. He is the depository of that power. But it is vested in him not for the gratification of his own will, but to be exercised with judicial views in accordance with the principles of the institution, and the broad foundations upon which it rests. We were by no means arguing, as Brother Drummond supposes, from the standpoint of a technical lawyer, nor deciding anything by the rules of civil law. We were appealing to that reason which underlies all law, and moves the breast of every enlightened man—that reason upon which rests all regular government of every kind. To vest a Masonic lodge with authority to decide judicially, and then if the decision does not square with the views of another, to visit with the capital penalty of having its charter taken away is not only the essence of injustice, but a plain and pure contradiction. It enjoins judicial duties, and at the same time denies the power to decide—even worse, it treats the decision as a crime, however honestly it is made. We deny that there is, or ever was, any such Masonic law. We affirm further, that with such a law understood and generally acted upon, Masonry, as now constituted, could not, and ought not, to exist.

"What we here insist upon is not merely the rule of civil law, it is the rule which must dictate the structure, and has always dictated the structure of all institutions among civilized men. It is the Masonic law because it is the law of right reason; and it is the civil law from no other reason. There are certain technical rules affecting procedure in our civil

courts, which have grown up from a variety of special causes, and which are inapplicable to the Masonic institutions, and ought not to be applied in the administration of its affairs. But the great principles of justice are eternal and universal, and are common to Masonry with civil and all other institutions. The ruling which we have criticized was in our opinion essentially unjust, and therefore wrong. If the same thing had been done in New York (which if so is to us a marvel) we say the same thing. The Grand Master is undoubtedly vested with great powers, but, as we have said, he is supposed to be the person with whom they may be safely lodged.

"Oh! it is excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous
To use it as a giant."

"But we do not need to elaborate the argument; our former observations have been extensively quoted, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that they are approved by some of the ablest Masonic jurists and writers of our time."

Canada for 1897 receives a good notice.

Lodges, 77; members, 9,224; increase, 113.

John McLane (Milford), G.M.

George P. Cleaves (Concord), G.S.

NEW JERSEY.

112th Communication, Trenton, January 25, 1899.

Josiah W. Ewan, G.M.

On the subject of special dispensations, the Grand Master says:

"In refusing permission to lodges to wear Masonic clothing in attendance at Divine service, I have simply followed the precedent established, in recent years, by my predecessors, and in which I fully concur, believing that the sentiment of this Grand Lodge is opposed to Masons appearing in Masonic clothing at any time other than at strictly Masonic functions.

"On the first of August I received a request for dispensation to hold an impromptu Blue Lodge among the officers of the United States Army, as a 'novelty.'

"I could not see my way clear to sanction a Masonic 'novelty,' hence respectfully declined to grant the dispensation.

"In April last certain brethren, residing at Schraalenberg and Ramseys, in Bergen County, intimated a desire for the formation of new lodges at these places.

"I very decidedly discouraged the applications, believing that the time was not ripe for the establishment of any more lodges in that locality, and the brethren have evidently acquiesced in this opinion.

"I have observed a growing tendency on the part of lodges to ask for all sorts of permissions or dispensations.

"The only dispensations for which a fee is charged in New Jersey are for the formation of a new lodge and for conferring two or more degrees at the same communication, for which a fee of \$20 is collected. I have collected for such dispensations the sum of \$100, which I have forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

"A very frequent request is for dispensation to hold the annual election and installation of officers at a time other than provided by law.

"The usual reason for the latter request is that the Worshipful Master is incompetent to qualify his successor and is unable to do so until he can secure the presence of his District Deputy or some competent Past Master to perform the duty for him.

"It is the duty of the Worshipful Master, and his alone, to qualify his successor, and it is just as essential for him to qualify himself to perform this duty as it is for him to be able to confer the degrees or open and close his lodge.

"From the number of these requests, I am led to believe that the Worshipful Masters of some of our lodges are truly mindful of the Scriptural passage, 'Ask and ye shall receive.'

"I would suggest a new reading of the above: 'Ask and ye may receive a dispensation on payment of \$10 for same.'

"On these terms I believe the Past Master degree will be acquired by many Worshipful Masters and the Grand Master, and the District Deputies relieved of much labor, from which the Grand Lodge derives no benefit."

A general improvement is noted in the work of the lodges and in the attendance at the District Lodges of Instruction.

The new Masonic Home at Burlington was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. They have already 23 inmates.

It was decided that applicants for waiver of jurisdiction must possess the same physical qualifications as required by those applying for initiation and their eligibility must be determined in the same manner.

A special report by the Committee on Correspondence was presented on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, recognizing certain Negro Lodges. This report, concluding with the following resolutions, was unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge, thus declaring non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington:

"Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of Washington, by its recognition of irregular and clandestine Masons, has placed itself without the pale of regularity; in the assent it has volunteered in preparing

the way for the formation of clandestine lodges, and a Grand Lodge within the occupancy of its own territorial jurisdiction to the detriment of the Masonic fraternity and to the confusion of interests in other Masonic jurisdictions with which alliance has been of mutual accord; by assailment of the principle of Grand Lodge sovereignty, in an association abhorrent to the Craft of regular Free and Accepted Masons, by which it has itself derogated to the condition of clandestinity.

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge reiterates the irregular and clandestine status affixed to certain men claiming to be Masons at the Annual Communication of 1871; in avowment of the preservation of legitimate Masonry, and the purity of its source, essential to true Craftsmen, hereby orders the severance of fraternal relations and intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and the members thereof. This interdict to be of immediate force."

It was deemed inexpedient at this time to enter into fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of Belgium or the Grand Lodge of Peru.

We regret that the late reception of these Proceedings prevents us from doing justice to the admirable report on Correspondence by Bro. George B. Edwards. Canada for 1898 receives due mention.

Lodges, 168; members, 16,970; increase, 426.

Josiah W. Ewan (Mount Holly), G.M.

Thos. H. R. Redway (Trenton), G.S.

NEW MEXICO.

21st Communication, Albuquerque, Oct. 3, 1898.

John W. Poe, G.M.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:

"All things considered the year just closed has, I believe, been a fairly prosperous one for the Craft in this jurisdiction. I think so because of the increased interest, and more healthy tone generally manifested, by the lodges, and especially the weaker and more isolated ones. Some of these which, one or two years ago, were seriously considering the surrender of their charters seem to have found new courage, and are hopefully looking forward to a brighter future. This I think may be accounted for in the main by the greatly improved business conditions of the past year within our Territory. We are at peace with all of our sister jurisdictions. Harmony is the rule within our own. A majority of our lodges are making a healthy growth in membership, and, judging from reports I have received and from my own observations, the material which is being brought up is good and desirable."

The Districts were reduced in size and increased in number, in order to allow for more effective supervision.

The Grand Lecturer sent in his report from Dawson City, in the Klondike region, and in it he says

"Here, in this far-off land, I meet brethren from every point of the globe; nowhere that I have been have I seen so clearly made manifest the universality of Masonry. The ties that bind us seem stronger here than at home. No doubt because we feel more strongly our interdependence upon each other."

The following report was adopted on a ruling of the Grand Master as to the Masonic burial of a suicide:

"We agree with the Most Worshipful Grand Master, that there may be circumstances attending a suicide when it would not be improper to accord the deceased a Masonic burial. It is probably better not to attempt to lay down any hard and fast rule on this subject, and to leave each case to be determined according to the peculiar circumstances surrounding it. Suicide may be committed by a Master Mason under such circumstances as to make it a crime which would bring shame upon the Craft. It was recognized as such under the common law of England, but it must not be forgotten that a much more lenient view is taken of it as the world has grown to be more charitable and tolerant. A suicide might also be committed by a Mason under such circumstances as to appeal to the charity and sympathy of his brethren, and under such circumstances as to make the denial of the right of burial a punishment to those who survive him instead of to the deceased."

The report on Correspondence is by Bros. Max Frost and W. H. Seamon. Bro. Seamon reviews our Proceedings of 1897 and says that the reports of our District Deputies are models of excellence.

Lodges, 20; members, 881; increase, 28.

Robert C. Stewart (Socorro), G.M.

Alpheus A. Keen (Albuquerque), G.S.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Proceedings from June, 1897, to June, 1898.

Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G., G.M.

Quarterly Communication, Sydney, Sept. 8, 1897.

A proposal to donate \$5,000 from the Fund of Benevolence to the Freemasons' Benevolent Institution was ruled out of order by the Grand Master, mainly on the ground that by the terms of the Constitution the Board of Benevolence is to distribute this charity itself and not to transfer it to any other body for distribution and more

especially not to one outside of the control of the Grand Lodge.

Representatives were exchanged with the Grand Lodge of Portugal.

Steps are to be taken to incorporate the Grand Lodge.

Dec. 8, 1897. The request for recognition from the Gran Dieta of Mexico was not entertained.

A Master was fined two guineas for refusing to allow a member to speak before the minutes were put for confirmation.

March 9, 1898. The Grand Inspector of Workings found the work in the lodges very satisfactory and a general improvement in the business.

June 8, 1898. The request of a lodge to be allowed to meet on Sundays was very properly refused.

In his review of Canada for 1897, Bro. John B. Trivett has the following:

"The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters are very voluminous, occupying a considerable portion of the volume. These reports should be read as widely as possible, being most instructive and pleasant reading.

"It is evident that these officers occupy positions of great power and usefulness. They are expected to report on the membership, degree work, meetings held, attendance, relief granted, finances, prospects, and also as to the master's efficiency, and, in fine, to discuss anything and everything which can affect a lodge's welfare. In a large country, with a scattered population, the advantage of having such officers is at once apparent."

Lodges, 184; members, 6,847; decrease, 86.

Arthur H. Bray (Sydney), G.S.

NEW YORK.

117th Communication, New York, June 7, 1898.

William A. Sutherland, G.M.

The visits of the Grand Master were productive of an increased interest among the workmen. Their numbers have been augmented, harmony prevails, and the "greatest human agency for good the world has ever seen" is steadily advancing. Two new lodges were formed, one in New York named in memory of the Italian patriot, Mazzini, and the other by brethren of Scottish descent in Brooklyn named Kilwinning.

The District Deputies and Staff Officers proved them-

selves to be a band of workers scarce equalled and never excelled.

There are 221 inmates in their Masonic Home and the staff numbers 31. The current expenses for the year were \$38,838.26.

The following report of the Finance Committee was adopted:

"The suggestion of the Most Worshipful Grand Master regarding our brethren in the Island of Cuba, touches a tender point in our hearts. 'He who gives quickly gives twice.' It is, therefore, the sense of this committee that the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) be placed to the credit of the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, to be drawn upon by them at sight, for the purposes indicated; we feel that the time will soon come when our brethren in Cuba can receive, as they should receive, the assistance of their brethren who are firmly bound to the principles of brotherly love and relief."

Representatives were exchanged with the Grand Orient of Belgium.

In his review of Idaho, Bro. Jesse B. Anthony has the following on non-affiliation:

"The Special Committee appointed last year to consider the subject of non-affiliates and non-payment of dues, made an extended report. The principle that every Mason should belong to a lodge no one will gainsay, but that compulsory measures will tend to remedy the evil we very much doubt. You can 'lead a horse to water, but you cannot compel him to drink.' There is a large number of unaffiliated Masons in all jurisdictions, but in most instances it is a condition of their own choice. Wherein they are a 'serious menace to the welfare of the fraternity' we are unable to comprehend. A large percentage of this class never should have been made Masons and are no advantage to the Craft, except as additional units. Loss of interest causes many to drop out and this arises from the fact that many lodges are simply mills for manufacturing Masons. Another factor, and a very important one, is the negligence in the collection of dues as they accrue. The correction of these faults and an earnest effort to make a lodge a place of interest, sociability, and the cultivation of the principle of helpfulness will operate more to the diminution of the growth of this class than any radical legislation.

"As to the 'honor they enjoy of being Masons,' it appears to us that it is a very questionable honor. The deprivation of the benefits of membership, the right of any claim for assistance or burial, would seem to be a condition wherein their being Masons in name is of no practical advantage to them, and no impediment to the welfare of the Craft."

Canada for 1897 has a good notice. Bro. Anthony

informs us that under their revised Constitution, perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates has been done away with, being limited to twelve months, as it is with us.

Bro. Emil Frenkel contributes a most interesting account of the usages and customs in German Lodges:

"Before entering upon the reports of the various German Grand Lodges, a comparison between the lodges and the lodge work in the old Fatherland and our own customs might not be out of place, the more so, as some of the different features are perhaps not generally known and their knowledge may be agreeable to both our English and German-speaking brethren, in case they should have occasion to pay a fraternal call to some of the German lodges.

"To start with the petition of a candidate, it takes a much longer time until the request for membership is acted upon; so thorough are the preliminary inquiries into the character, standing, business connections and social life of the petitioner, that it is by no means unusual to see nine months and even a year elapse before the result is positively known, and ordinarily, at least six months pass, before a candidate is initiated. The only exception is made with sons of members of the same or other recognized lodges, who form, so to say, a preferred class, while ordinarily nobody can be proposed unless he is of age, the son of a Mason can be initiated as soon as he has completed his eighteenth year.

"The proposition having come before the lodge, the ballot is spread in the usual way, and if only one black ball is found, the candidate is declared elected. If two black balls should have been cast, the W. Master will ask the two brethren, who have so voted, to call on him privately during the next few days and give an explanation of their action. If the Master finds that the reasons advanced are good and sufficient, he will, at the next meeting of the lodge, declare the candidate rejected; if, on the other hand, he thinks that the grounds upon which the black ballots were cast were frivolous and not justified from a Masonic standpoint, he will state at the following communication that the candidate is elected. Three black balls reject.

All business transactions of the lodge are held while the lodge is open in the first degree, and every entered apprentice is considered a member of the lodge, entitled to all Masonic rights and privileges, except that of holding office, and he may be heard and may vote upon any question before the brethren. The 'Fellow Craft' and 'Master Mason' degrees are only worked for the advancement of members once or twice during the year, and under ordinary circumstances it takes about two years to be promoted from one degree to another.

"It is customary to appear in full dress and high silk hats in a German Masonic lodge, the Master alone being uncovered. Besides being clothed with the apron and white gloves, all

German Masons wear the jewels of their lodge while at work, and it is usual for the family of a Mason to return both apron and jewel to the lodge after his death. In many lodges the candidate, on the occasion of his initiation, is presented with two pairs of white gloves, one pair being for his own use, the other for his wife, so that she should also be made to understand the importance of the step which her husband has taken. The Master of a German lodge is usually elected for a term of three years, but his election must be approved by the Grand Lodge under whose jurisdiction his lodge works, before he can hold office; if the Grand Lodge should not be in session at that time, a committee thereof, appointed for such purpose, will decide whether the choice of the brethren is in accord with the sentiments of the Grand Body; and if not, a new election is ordered. It has repeatedly happened that a prominent and liberal-minded brother, elected to fill the chair in the East, could not be installed, as the choice of the lodge was not sanctioned by the Grand Lodge. It may be, that to meet such hardships and alleviate the naturally hurt feelings of an otherwise prominent Mason, the title of 'Honorary Master' was created in some German lodges, which, if conferred, makes the recipient a Worshipful and grants him the privilege of a seat in the East. In the absence of the regularly installed Master, a Deputy Master, also elected in the usual way, governs the deliberations of the lodge, and only in his absence the Wardens succeed in the order of their respective stations to the prerogatives of the presiding officer.

"Clubdom not being quite as general in the Old Fatherland as in England and the United States, the lodges on the other side take to a great extent the place of social organizations, and as a matter of fact, in small German towns the Masonic lodge represents indeed a social club of the strictest exclusiveness. Most lodges own their buildings, usually beautifully situated and surrounded by large gardens, and while a part of the roomy salons is set aside for the lodge work proper, another portion is entirely given up to the social intercourse and pleasure of the members and their families. At least twice a year (on the St. John's Festivals) large banquets are given, where the wives and daughters of the brethren participate, and after they have left the festive board the young folks claim the rest of the evening for dancing.

"Among the most magnificent lodge rooms, both in appointments and decorations, that have come under the observation of the writer, the home of the Grand Lodge 'Royal York zur Freundschaft' in Berlin deserves mention, and it may be added that all Masonic property (real and personal) is free from taxation in Prussia, under a charter given to the Masonic fraternity by their generous protector and brother, Frederick, the Great. In smaller towns, where no lodge exists, and none can be established on account of the expense, we find, nevertheless, the resident Masons frequently associated in regular Masonic circles, where, of course, no ritualistic work

is done, but where the social side of our Masonic institution is as fully developed as in the larger cities. These social unions put themselves usually under the protection of a lodge of a neighboring city, whose stated communications are attended by the brethren, if time and circumstances permit. Thus these visitors often become what they call 'permanently visiting brethren,' a status of affiliation entirely unknown to us. For instance, a brother belongs originally to a Frankfort lodge, but is compelled by business reasons to change his residence to Berlin, where he begins to visit a lodge under a different jurisdiction. In course of time, if his presence is agreeable, he will be asked to become a 'permanently visiting brother,' in which capacity he is not only entitled to be heard on any question, but also has the right to vote on ordinary matters and at elections; he cannot, however, ballot on candidates. He can hold some of the minor offices—those of Master, Deputy Master, and Warden always excepted. The permanently visiting brother, on the other hand, never ceases to be a member of his Mother Lodge, but is required to pay annual dues in both—the lodge he hails from and the one he visits.

"While we thus see that a great many things in the organization as well as in the work of the German lodges differ from our customs, the noble spirit of Masonry, the sublime principles and philanthropic teachings of the fraternity are always the same wherever we go, and wherever we turn. The friendly grip, the willing and helping hand, and the open heart of the true Mason will be found from one end of the globe to the other, making Freemasonry one of the most important educational factors in the promotion of human welfare not only in this century, but for all time to come."

Lodges, 743; members, 95,480; increase, 2,209.

William A. Sutherland (Rochester), G.M.

Edward M. L. Ehlers (New York), G.S.

NEW ZEALAND.

Annual Communication, Christ Church, April 28, 1898.

William Barron, G.M.

The terms of recognition proposed by the Grand Lodge of England and accepted by the Grand Lodge of New Zealand are given in full as follows:

"That the Grand Lodge of New Zealand shall in future be the recognized Grand Lodge for the Colony, including all the five districts heretofore holding under the English Constitution, and all other parts of the Colony.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master will in future grant no warrant for a new lodge within any of such districts or elsewhere within the Colony of New Zealand.

"The Grand Lodge of New Zealand will not, nor will its

Grand Master, grant any new warrant for any lodge out of the five districts referred to, or the Colony.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master will give authority to all lodges at present holding under the Grand Lodge of England to meet and decide in open lodge whether or not they desire to tender their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand; such meeting to be specially convened on not less than 21 days' notice, for the purpose of determining this question; and no other business save that and, if requisite, of disposing of the assets and property of the lodge, shall be considered at the meeting.

"A majority of two-thirds in number of the brethren present shall be required to enable the lodge to tender its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand; all other questions at the meeting shall be decided by a majority of the brethren present in the usual way.

"The result of the meeting, with copies of the resolutions passed thereat, shall be forthwith sent (in duplicate), verified by the signature of the Master in the chair, and countersigned by the Secretary, to the District Grand Secretary, and to the Grand Secretary at Freemasons' Hall, London.

"In case the lodge shall resolve to tender its adherence to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, the Warrant of Constitution must be forthwith returned to the Grand Secretary for cancellation.

"The lodge has full power to dispose of its property and records as the majority decides, but the Most Worshipful the Grand Master strongly recommends that the lodge minute book and the Treasurer's books and accounts shall remain with the lodge under whichever Sovereign Body it elects to continue, in order that the continuity of the lodge and the rights of members dependent on their being subscribing members should not be imperilled for want of these records on any future occasion.

"The Most Worshipful the Grand Master will be prepared to consider with favor any application for the return of a cancelled warrant that the lodge may wish to retain as a memorial of its former connection with the Grand Lodge of England.

"No second meeting of a lodge which has come to a resolution to continue under the Grand Lodge of England can be held without the special leave of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master.

"The Most Worshipful the Grand Master will consider any district in which fewer than three lodges may continue under their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, to be *ipso facto* dissolved; but, subject hereto, the lodges under the English Constitution, both private and the District Grand Lodges, will continue as at present, and remain unaffected by this recognition.

"All brethren who shall continue members of lodges under the English Constitution shall be fully recognized by the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and no brother shall incur any

Masonic censure by reason of his adhering to either allegiance, or of any part he may have taken on either side in the formation or establishment of the new Grand Body."

The reports of the District Grand Superintendents show that they visited all the lodges, that all are in a healthy and prosperous condition and making satisfactory progress. Five new Masonic Halls were erected.

As might be supposed from the lodges working so lately under different jurisdictions, there is considerable diversity in the ritual, one Superintendent saying that "the actual work is as varied as opinion." The Board of General Purposes was instructed to consider the advisability of adopting a uniform ritual.

The Committee on Past Grand Rank presented an elaborate report. From the replies received from other Grand Lodges it is evident that there is no universal Masonic custom as to the conferring of this distinction. Many Grand Lodges have no rule or practice in the matter. One thinks it illegal; one fictitious and not truthful; one ridiculous and not creditable; while others have no hesitation in granting the honor. Two Grand Lodges object to other Grand Lodges conferring Past rank, while three would not criticize such acts by other Grand Lodges. Others think that the distinction should be limited to members of Grand Lodges other than the one conferring the favor, while one Grand Lodge has repeatedly conferred such rank upon its own members.

The new Grand Master is the Right Honorable Richard John Seddon, the Premier of the Colony.

His address on his installation is thus summarized:

"Bro. Seddon referred with telling effect to the fact that in the establishment and building up of this Grand Lodge the predictions of disruption had all been falsified; the rocks and shoals of finance had been avoided, as the balance-sheet so amply demonstrated. A reduction in the fees had been urged, but after careful consideration he had come to the conclusion that this would be at present an unwise step. He referred to the great numerical strength of the New Zealand Grand Lodge as compared with other constitutions, to the recognition by the Grand Lodge of England as a deeply gratifying fact, and to the strong grip of loyalty to the Mother Land that existed in the mystic tie. In eloquent terms he advocated full and free communication between all lodges, and dwelt upon the characteristics that should be found in all true Masons—men amongst men, charitable, upright. The strength of Masonry was not to be looked for in numbers, but in moral status. It

would be his earnest endeavour to leave the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, when his term of office expired, in a better position than he found it."

Semi-annual Communication, Napier, Oct. 26, 1898.

The question of ritual was left in abeyance for future consideration.

Three new lodges were opened and a fourth transferred its allegiance from the Scotch Registry.

Lodges, 111; members, 4,549; increase, 271.

Right Hon. R. J. Seddon (Wellington), G.M.

Rev. William Donaldson (Dunedin), G.S.

NORTH CAROLINA.

112th Communication, Raleigh, January 10, 1899.

Walter E. Moore, G.M.

The general progress has been very satisfactory. The officers and members have shown a desire and earnestness to learn the work and good work has been done. Two new lodges were formed and three dormant lodges revived.

The Oxford Orphan Asylum is now caring for 217 children. The per capita expense for the year was \$67.10. The sum of \$2,500 was voted to its assistance.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, Master Masons, their wives, daughters, sisters and mothers are the only persons eligible to membership in Eastern Star Chapters, as are now being organized in this State; and,

"Whereas, We believe that such Chapters will greatly increase the income to our great charity, the Oxford Orphan Asylum; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the organization of Eastern Star Chapters be encouraged throughout this Grand Jurisdiction."

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported at length on the Negro question, and their conclusions were adopted as follows:

"Resolved, That the Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina be directed to notify the Grand Master of Masons in Washington that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina has suspended all fraternal relations and Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington; that its representative near this Grand Body be requested to withdraw his credentials, and the representative of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina near the Grand Lodge of Washington is requested to return his credentials, and is no longer empowered to represent this Grand Body near that jurisdiction.

"Resolved further, That the North Carolina lodges are instructed not to admit to Masonic intercourse any Mason who is a member of any lodge working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"Resolved, further, That this step is taken not in anger, but in sincere pain, and that the Masons in North Carolina earnestly trust that the Grand Lodge of Washington may in its discretion see fit to rescind its former action and to return to the ancient landmarks, which, in the opinion of the Masons of North Carolina, have been invaded."

In his notice of Canada for 1897 and 1898 Bro. John A. Collins says that we still set the pace for other jurisdictions in the matter of practical benevolence.

Lodges, 307; members, 10,954; increase, 454.

R. J. Noble (Selma), G.M.

J. C. Drewry (Raleigh), G.S.

NORTH DAKOTA.

9th Communication, Fargo, June 21, 1898.

Robert M. Carothers, G.M.

He reports two new lodges and also one military lodge attached to a battalion of troops from their State in the Phillipine Islands. The Grand Lodge approved of his recommendations in this matter by the adoption of the following report:

"Masonry teaches us that it is the duty of all Masons to be loyal and true to the government under which they live; that patriotism, the love of the country, is the highest and noblest and best quality of the human heart. We, therefore, most heartily recommend the unanimous approval of the action of and recommendations made by our Most Worshipful Grand Master relative to the granting of a dispensation for a military lodge in the Philippine Islands, and that the dues of all Masons, members within this Grand Jurisdiction, while in the military service of the United States during the war with Spain, be remitted, and their lodge be relieved from paying Grand Lodge dues on them during the continuance of such service."

The following report was also adopted:

"Your Committee on Morals and Dogmas respectfully recommend that each particular lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction be required to present to each Master Mason hereafter raised, and at the time of raising, a copy of the Morals and Dogmas of the Symbolic Degrees, as compiled by our late Bro. Albert Pike, with a promise from the candidate that he will read the same at his earliest opportunity. Said copy of Morals and Dogmas to be paid for by the lodge."

Lodges, 50; members, 2,871; increase, 169.

George H. Keyes (Ellendale), G.M.

Frank J. Thompson (Fargo), G.S.

NOVA SCOTIA.

33rd Communication, Lunenburg, June 8, 1898.

Thomas B. Flint, G.M.

The Grand Master is also a member of the Dominion House of Commons. His record of visitations is extremely creditable, considering that his parliamentary duties removed him from the jurisdiction for four months. He has a pleasant mention of the dedication of the Masonic Hall at Ottawa. The lodges are prosperous, harmony prevails and a spirit of hopefulness and ambition to improve characterizes the membership.

The Committee on Maritime Union presented the following report:

"To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia:

"The committee appointed at the last meeting relative to forming a union of the Grand Lodges of the Maritime Provinces have failed so far to get this very interesting matter in a satisfactory position.

"It is needless to point out the many great advantages that would flow from such a union. From a conference held last year with some of the leading brethren of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, we have reason to believe that the Grand Lodge would be willing for union, but your committee are of the opinion that much difficulty and opposition would be experienced from our sister Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, although we are glad to say a good many of its members favor the union, which your committee think would be of great advantage to the Craft.

"Your committee would recommend that the same committee be continued, and report at the next meeting of this Grand Lodge."

Bro. T. V. B. Bingay reviews Canada for 1897 and says:

"The reports of the several D. D. G. Masters are voluminous, and show their duties were performed in a zealous and painstaking manner. We note that their duties consisted in the inspection of the work as shown in the ceremonies of opening and closing in the several degrees, the conferring of degrees, the reviewing of the O. B.'s, the exemplification of the esoteric work, and inquiry into the financial and general condition of each lodge.

"We feel somewhat ashamed to think of the frequent references made by D. D. G. Masters in our own jurisdiction to

difficulties entailed in reaching some of the isolated lodges, when we find that one of these brethren of Canada traveled over 2,000 miles and was absent from home thirty days and nights in the discharge of his duties. It is gratifying to know, however, that travelling expenses are paid by the lodges visited." * * *

In reviewing the Proceedings we cannot but be impressed by the heavy amount of work performed in the two days' session of the Grand Lodge, a proof of the high executive and business ability of those who have the administration of its affairs in their hands.

Lodges, 61; members, 3,383; decrease, 26.

Thomas B. Flint (Yarmouth), G.M.

Hon. William Ross (Halifax), G.S.

OHIO.

39th Communication, Columbus, Oct. 19, 1898.

Nelson Williams, G.M.

The lodges have been active and prosperous. The District Lecturers visited all the 500 lodges except 27, at a cost of \$1,202.21, and the average cost per lodge was \$2.55. Three new lodges were formed. On the issue of special dispensations, the Grand Master says:

"I have issued 106 dispensations during the year, and have declined to issue almost as many more. A list of those issued is herewith submitted, to be printed in the Proceedings. Many requests have been made for authority to confer degrees in less than the time prescribed by the code, all of which I have refused. These requests have been more numerous than of late years, and more urgent, because of the enlistment in the army of many petitioners, and of brethren who had only taken one or two degrees. I should gladly have issued these dispensations had it been consistent with my understanding of the policy of this Grand Lodge. No landmark of our Order is more clearly established than the one which invests the Grand Master with the prerogative to grant such dispensations; but for more than thirty years our Grand Masters, nearly all of whom are still living, have refused to grant them, because they believed that hasty work was not for the best interests of the Craft. With an abiding faith in the judgment of these distinguished brethren, I have made the rule inflexible. I had one request for a dispensation to enable a lodge to hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing to membership a brother who had been holding a dimit from the lodge for fourteen years, and who was on his deathbed, and wanted to affiliate in order that he might die a Mason. To this request I responded that the present Grand Master is not a firm believer in deathbed repentance."

Three of the decisions of the Grand Master contain new points:

"1. In answer to the question, 'Is an hermaphrodite entitled to receive degrees conferred by a Masonic lodge?' I held: The Ancient Constitutions provide that an applicant for Masonic degrees must be a man. An hermaphrodite, according to the books, is not a man, but a monstrosity, and therefore can not properly be made a Mason." * * *

4. Held: "That while Freemasonry prides itself upon adhering closely to the old forms and ceremonies, it must, to some extent, keep step with scientific development, and the growing conveniences of the age, and, as the lights about the altar are mere representatives of other lights, electric bulbs may be substituted for the burning taper or the gas-jet."

"10. In answer to the question by telegraph, 'Can Masonic funeral service be held over a Master Mason in good standing, if body is to be cremated?' I replied: 'Yes; if necessary, change phraseology of funeral service.' I was unable to find any decision on this question by this Grand Lodge. Some neighboring jurisdictions and some able Masonic writers have taken a contrary view of the matter. My research was of necessity limited, as a reply was asked by wire, and the decision was given as my best judgment at the time. I am still satisfied as to the correctness of the decision. Free Masonry is universal, and will survive the ages. It recognizes no man for his worldly wealth or honor. It questions no man as to his political belief or religious faith. If he recognizes the existence of a Supreme Being, it takes him as he is, a living man, and requires of him no pledges as to the disposition of his body after death. Neither does it make any requirement relative thereto. It gives him the assurance that if he be in good standing at the time of his death, he is entitled to a Masonic burial. And what is a Masonic burial? In what does it consist? In nothing more than reading our funeral service over the body of a deceased brother, and dropping on his coffin the evergreen as an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul? And what is our funeral service, or ceremony? It is no part of Freemasonry. It is not mentioned in our Ancient Constitutions, and was not thought of until years after the revival of 1717. The ceremony has been given to us in order that we may, in a public and suitable manner, testify to our appreciation, as Masons, of the character of the deceased brother, and pay his memory that respect to which it is entitled. And to do this, is it necessary that the body be actually deposited in the earth? We think not. Some of our most renowned men and Masons are sleeping in sepulchers and mausoleums, some above and some below the surface of the earth, and yet no one has denied them a Masonic burial. It is quite common to deposit the bodies of our fellow-men in vaults for weeks after

death, and then privately inter them. Is it possible that Masonic brethren may not read their ceremony over these bodies before the doors of the vaults close upon them, shutting them out from the gaze of the public forever! And if this may be done, why may we not pay our last tribute to the dead before the doors of a crematory close upon his body forever? If it be contended that the ritual of the Third Degree symbolizes the literal burial of the body, may it not with equal force be claimed that it symbolizes the literal resurrection of the body, and yet no one seriously advocates this at the present time.

"The body is placed in the grave to molder and decay, and after long years to dissolve into dust or ashes. By cremation the dissolution of the body, and consumption of the gases, take place at once. The end is the same—ashes! I do not want to be understood as favoring cremation; but I believe there is no Masonic law, or reason, which will prevent a Masonic lodge from reading the funeral service over a body which is to be cremated."

We have no objections to cremation, and on sanitary grounds it is to be preferred to burial. The Masonic funeral service can easily be adapted to the circumstances.

There are still some 38 clandestine lodges in Ohio, and the Grand Master found it necessary to issue an edict of warning against them. He also says:

"I desire to urge the officers and members of the subordinate lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction to be ever watchful and vigilant in excluding from their lodges these spurious Masons. We have nothing in common with them. If they can find either glory, honor, or satisfaction in maintaining an opposition Grand Lodge, which is spurned by every Grand Jurisdiction in America, let them have it; but see to it that they do not share with us that glory, honor and satisfaction which true Freemasonry in Ohio has won by ninety years of steadfast devotion to the principles and landmarks of the Order."

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

On the question of the physical qualifications of candidates, the following deliverance was adopted:

"Resolved, That a candidate for the Degree of Entered Apprentice should be able physically, as well as intellectually, of himself, and without exterior aid or assistance from another, to receive and impart all the essentials for Masonic recognition; and the question as to his sufficiency in such respects is a subject presented to the lodge petitioned for its determination."

Membership was renewed in the General Masonic Relief Association.

The sum of \$6,000 was voted to their Masonic Home,

and the per capita tax in aid of that Institution was increased from fifteen cents to thirty cents.

Bro. W. M. Cunningham prefaces his most valuable report on Correspondence by the following letter from that distinguished and eminent Mason, Bro. William James Hughan, of Torquay, England:

"In response to the invite of the esteemed chairman of the committee, I have pleasure in writing a few thoughts on the Report on Foreign Correspondence. The whole volume published for the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and ably edited and in part compiled by the Grand Secretary, for the year 1897-8, is a remarkable work, and most creditable to all concerned, from the first page to the last; the tables are very valuable for reference, and the Report on Correspondence is one of Bro. Cunningham's best.

"More than twenty years ago I wrote articles in the Ohio Annuals, when my old friend, Bro. Caldwell, was Grand Secretary, so this is not my first venture in that direction.

"First of all, let me say I do not believe in the recognition of the Gran Dieta of Mexico, and so am one with all those brethren who recommend leaving that organization alone, alone for the time at least, until it is purified, and becomes thoroughly Masonic. As Bro. Cunningham says, 'There is no necessity for any haste in that formal recognition,' and to my mind hasty recognition of any body is to be deplored, especially one with such a past as the one of Mexico.

"As to 'Cerneauism,' the pages devoted to that subject (422-6) have given it a quietus, from which it can not rise again. Undoubtedly there is a wide distinction between a clandestine Freemason and one that is simply irregular. The latter may be healed, but assuredly not the former; for such a one is a Cowan, wholly outside the pale of the Craft, and always must be until accepted and initiated *de novo*. In the olden days Cowans were never recognized by the genuine operatives, and so never 'healed.' Their only place was outside the lodge, permanently and irrevocably.

"In respect to Masonic processions in Craft clothing, I published, many years ago, a still earlier instance than the one quoted from my lamented friend, 'Vernon's History,' viz., 20th of January, 1708, at Alnwick, North of England; Records of an old lodge there, with minutes from 1701-3. (Freemason, 1871.)

"'It was Ordered that for the future noe member of the said Mar Wardens or ffellows should appear at (any) or the Lodge to be kept on St. John's Day in Christmas without his apron and Common Square fixt in the Belt; . . . that a sermon be p'vided and preached that day at the Church by some clergyman at their appoint'mt where the Lodge shall appear,' etc.

"Since then this valuable minute-book has been reproduced by the Rosecrucian Brethren of the Province of Northumber-

land and Durham (Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1895); but there is no word therein as to the corner of apron being tucked up. I have never known it done by or for a Master Mason, but for Apprentices or Fellow Crafts, those of the Third Degree wearing the apron in full form.

"Bro. Greenleaf's report for Colorado is well worth quoting from and contains many points of special interest. The portions referred to, however, though not occupying much space, are so suggestive that I almost fear to glance at the questions discussed, because of lack of time and fear of occupying too much space.

"Bro. Conder's history of the 'Masons' Company' is most valuable, especially as it traces speculative Freemasonry back to 1631 and earlier; but as respects separate degrees (as with all Masonic records of that century), the matter is left undecided, as there is not a single minute which mentions a separate Master Mason's ceremony in those old records, as Bro. Conder frankly acknowledges. Neither two or more degrees are noted, but only positions or rank.

"As to there being no speculative Masonry prior to 1717, it is not worth refuting, the evidence being so ample and convincing of gentlemen being initiated throughout the seventeenth century in England and Scotland; but the crux is to find a minute of an Esoteric Degree being communicated during that period, from which Apprentices were excluded. There might have been such, but there is no evidence; so it is equally true that there might not have been. So far we know not.

"The Book of Constitutions, 1738 (England) was as regular and as authorized, until superseded, as was its predecessor, from 1723 to 1738, and its successor, from 1756 to 1767, and so also the issue of a new title-page of 1746, else being quite the same as 1738.

"Under Louisiana, I should like to point out to the veteran reporter, Bro. Fellows, that though the 'Ancients' of England had the Royal Arch from their first organization in 1751, the 'Moderns' had worked that degree before then, so that the 'Ancients' had not the monopoly of Royal Arch Masonry, as some claim, during that decade, as it can be traced back some ten years earlier, when the 'Schismatics' did not exist. Neither am I aware of any Grand Lodge anywhere working three degrees, that can prove that either directly or indirectly it does not owe such knowledge to the Premier Grand Lodge of 1717.

"Under Massachusetts, it seems to me a good decision that 'a reasonable amount of music adds very materially to the impressiveness of our services.'

"The P. M. Degree, noted under Missouri, raises an important inquiry, and one that requires delicate handling. In England and Scotland that fanciful ceremony is dropped for a real ceremony on Installation of a Master. It seems to me wise to keep all degrees of a chivalric character quite distinct from the Craft, and hence I do not agree with the view expressed, under New Hampshire, as to 'vouching,' and it is doubtful,

also, as to the position advocated under Oregon. In England three can hold a warrant, but there must be five brethren—not necessarily members—to hold a lodge, and seven to initiate, according to our oldest unwritten laws.

“But I must conclude, as my time is up. I thank Bro. Cunningham most warmly for his capital report.

“W. J. HUGHAN.”

Canada for 1897 receives an extended notice.

Lodges, 500; members, 42,848; increase, 1,135.

E. C. Guilliford (Cleveland), G.M.

J. H. Bromwell (Cincinnati), G.S.

OKLAHOMA.

6th Communication, El Reno, February 8, 1898.

Albert W. Fisher, G.M.

He reports the lodges in good condition and two new lodges.

The jurisdiction is to be divided into four districts, one to be under the supervision of each of the four principal Grand Officers, who are to visit and inspect all the lodges.

The Entertainment given to the Grand Lodge by the members of El Reno was enlivened by a serenade from a Band composed of full blood Arapahoe Indian Students of the Arapahoe Indian School.

Lodges, 33; members, 1,456; increase, 137.

Enoch M. Bamford (Guthrie), G.M.

James S. Hunt (Stillwater), G.S.

OREGON.

48th Communication, Portland, June 15, 1898.

W. H. Hobson, G.M.

Most of the lodges are prosperous, but a few are retrograding. Two new lodges were formed.

Bro. W. T. Williamson, the Grand Orator, delivered a very eloquent address, from which we are able to quote as follows:

“Members of the mystic Craft well know that the mysteries of the ancient fraternity are largely based on the building of King Solomon's temple. In the learned writings much is said of this temple, its dimensions and construction, and that it was the first building of significance erected by Masons. The name Solomon is very suggestive, being a combination of three names for deity, taken from the Latin, the Hindoo and the Egyptian, as a combination of different names for the sun,

which to all early races was the visible representation of the invisible God. And, need we wonder if that glorious sun, the source of vivifying glory, of animated incandescence, where every passion and every energy of the universe might have had its birth, where the winds might borrow their storms, the thunder find its livid bolts, earthquakes their resounding footsteps, and war and pestilence draw their subtle shafts—need we wonder that for ages this source of light was enshrined in the hearts of mankind as at least a type of deity?

“And this combination of names suggests the thought that reference is had to a mythical personage representing that Great Light in Masonry, which, when once permitted to illumine the mind of the faithful Craftsman, makes all things plain. We may then have reasonable doubts as to whether King Solomon of the mysteries is the same person as Judea’s great king.

“Symbols and allegories are of inestimable value to thinking men. In the investigation of their true meaning, we must be governed by the single principle that the whole design of speculative Masonry, as a science, is the elicitation of Divine truth. In this we progress toward the perfect character. It is always progress, onward and upward. Pythagoras laid down the precept, ‘When traveling turn not back, for if you do, the furies will accompany you.’ And the Divine Master taught that ‘No man having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of heaven.’ Man’s destiny as an immortal being requires him to ascend, step by step, until he has reached the summit where the treasures of knowledge await him—‘that hieroglyphic bright, which none but Craftsmen ever saw.’ These symbols and mysteries, constituting so much of the family history of Masonry, must have intelligent interpretation; otherwise, if taken in their naked, literal sense, they are barren and unworthy of labor. It is not enough to pass through the initiation, ascend the winding stairs of knowledge, and live over again the occult features of erecting Solomon’s temple—and then forget what purpose and progress are brought into being in the ceremony. It is not enough that we become familiar with the text of our ritual, to repeat it from first to last fluently. Such an one is often called a bright Mason, but the brilliancy may be all superficial. Unless we have penetrated to the inner meaning, absorbed the mysteries and enunciated the import of symbols, we have failed to find the pearl of great price which the ancient masters wrapped up in the rites and ceremonies, through which we have been privileged to pass.

“For instance, much of tradition and teaching accounts the building of King Solomon’s Temple as the beginning of Freemasonry. Though certainly an important event in Jewish history, notably as a revelation from God Himself, drawing the plans on the trestle-board for the Master in charge to direct its creation—yet much of this is mythical. In the first place, the dimensions of this temple are conceded to be not in

harmony with the highest order of architecture then extant, being confessedly of awkward outline, and lacking symmetry. The details of the Egyptian temples, though it is curious that they had not discovered the arch in architecture, and also of temples in America before the white man came here—their Cyclopean structure required a far greater knowledge of mechanics than was needed to build the temple at Jerusalem. Studying the temples in Greece, the beauty and harmony of design surpass that displayed in Solomon's Temple. One might believe on examining the Cathedral at Cologne that there a supernatural architect had laid the plans and shaped the outlines—much more likely, at least, than that divine suggestion had shaped Solomon's Temple, when the latter is obviously inferior, as it is also to that built at a later date by Herod. Yet, illuminated by the instructive glow of speculative Masonry, and taking these lessons as symbolic, they become invested with a splendor and dignity, with beautiful and lofty conceptions, that could not be enriched or increased if these immaterial points were historical facts. In living over and over again the instructive drama incident to its erection, we are each time building anew in our hearts, under direct divine guidance, the true temple of Solomon, the real Masonic edifice, a perfect character. This also is erected without the sound of ax, hammer or any tool of iron, because the passions symbolized by iron are mastered, and compelled to serve. And, in this connection, it is interesting to remember that, while Free and Accepted Masonry exists in all civilized and in many uncivilized lands, yet the story of Solomon's Temple is known only among Jews, Christians and Mohammedans. Withal, the ritual in any one country is similar to that prevailing among Masons in other countries, and professing other religions; so that a Mason can make himself known in any part of the world. Indeed, our great light in Masonry, the Hebrew Bible, is replaced in other lands by other media for transmitting the effulgent splendor of divine symbolism on the trestle-board; as the Koran in the Mohammedan, the Vedas in the Brahmin, and the Zend Avesta in the Parsee. Yet the bond of brotherhood is wider and stronger than the limitations of religious creeds, and the Moslem, Jew, Buddhist, Brahmin, Parsee and Christian all sit side by side, in perfect peace and harmony, acknowledging the Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe as the Common Father; and they may, indeed, have no uniform great light on the altar, as in fair Cathay, among the disciples of Confucius." * * *

"To approximately follow numbers through their significations is too great a task, as they become instinct with an import that carries them into nearly all the walks of life. The odd and even numbers, or the opposites, with their combinations, were claimed to be the base of all things. The place of honor is accorded to the odd. 'One' is reason, is unity. The three, five and seven steps include much. We have the three great lights and the three lesser lights, three movable and

three immovable jewels, three articles of furniture, three ornaments, three principal rounds of Jacob's ladder, three principal officers in a lodge, three principal supports, three degrees, three stations of the sun, three colors in the covering of the lodge, three great Masonic tenets, three working tools for the fellowcraft, three original orders of architecture, etc., etc. Then we have the five orders of architecture, the five senses of human nature, and the five-pointed star as a symbol of the five points of fellowship. Seven, without factors or product, is also, esoterically and otherwise, of much significance. Instance the seven-branched candlesticks, the seven steps of the Masonic ladder, and the seven liberal arts and sciences which, after the second pause, related to the seven steps. Then the whole number of steps, fifteen, was a sacred number among the Orientals, being cabalistically symbolic of the name of God, because the letters of the holy name were, in their numerical value, equivalent to fifteen. Indeed, every article of Masonic appointments is sanctified with the thoughtful reverence and study of thousands of years ago, embalmed in the memories of the purest thinkers of ages long gone by, and pregnant with intellectual lessons, not always learned by the self-sufficiency of to-day. The essential part of the old wisdom can be apprehended still, unless we have eyes that see not, and ears that hear not. The various emblems each teach a sublime lesson. The altar, a perfect cube, anciently taught as the shape of the universe, lighted by three lights, teaching the sevenfold nature of man; the square, referring to the animal or passionate nature of man, and the triangle to the divine man, of which nature the pyramid is an enduring symbol. Unfold the cube, and we have the cross, the universal emblem of self-sacrifice, the higher offering itself to lift the lower, again symbolized in the Masonic square. The cube is the unmanifest universe, as yet only a waste of waters—the spirit of God moved on the face of the deep, and God said, 'Let there be light, and there was light'—the cube disappeared and the rose cross took its place, the emblem also of immortality, a lesson taught in the Masonic rites so plainly that all Masons have come to know, in some sort, that the highest joy is in the service of those who suffer. And these lessons inhere in every Masonic feature. As the name Mason indicates, the Order is one of builders, but just what they propose to build is not always understood; and, unless this great body of to-day has a living purpose ever animating it, it stultifies the aims of its continued existence. Evolved, then, away back in the dim, misty past, perhaps thousands of years before the Star of Bethlehem led the magi of the East to the manger where Jesus was born, a past when Ephesus, Damascus and Baalbec were yet unknown, Speculative Masonry was faithfully teaching man through its tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, to build in his heart a true temple—a perfect man. As centuries came and went, despite all changes, this central idea never disappeared, was never idle, and Operative Masonry lent

its majestic aid in symbolizing with object lessons, explaining and illustrating, until the initiated walked in a world which was literally one cradle of learning. Each age brought forth more, so that now, with the accretions and additions of all time, the sun by day and the stars by night reveal the book of nature, and the creatures of art, with all the material, all the tools, and all the labor, to erect the magnificent edifice, each for himself, and ever assist his brother.

"Hence, my brothers, let us all be more delighted to learn, and relearn, all which our noble Order has to teach; to pierce beneath the external to the internal; to practice in the world the lessons we learn in the lodge, so that when the Grand Master inspects the work at the East gate of the Temple, and we stand before the full glory of the risen sun of Truth, we may present square and perfect work, and pass, unhindered, to the Holy of Holies.

The proposition from Maine to limit the effect of a re-jection to five years was approved by the Committee on Law and lies over until next session.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was negatived by the adoption of the following report:

"1. That every Mason is under equal obligations to relieve the distress of a worthy brother according to his necessity and his own ability to contribute.

"2. That the right of a distressed worthy brother to claim relief grows out of the fact of his being a Mason and not out of the fact of his having contributed to the funds of any particular lodge.

"3. That the association of Masons for the purpose of forming and maintaining lodges in no manner relieves them from their individual charitable obligations, and that when they act as a lodge their duty and, therefore, that of the lodge, is precisely the same as that of an individual Mason. That Masonic relief is never purchased or sold; therefore never creates a debt."

Subordinate lodges are forbidden to become incorporated.

Honorary membership was abolished.

Bro. Robert Clow reports on Correspondence and reviews our proceedings of 1897.

Lodges, 101; members, 4,946; increase, 40.

John B. Cleland (Portland), G.M.

James F. Robinson (Eugene), G.S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

This bulky volume contains the record of four Quarterly Meetings in 1898 and the Annual Communication on December 27th.

The Grand Master, William J. Kelly, exercised his privilege of making Masons at sight. At a Grand Lodge of Emergency, with 33 lodges represented, he gave the three degrees to three candidates. No reason is given why these parties could not have joined a lodge in the usual way.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

A handsome "Loving Cup" was presented to Bro. Thomas R. Patton, in recognition of his faithful services as Grand Treasurer for 25 years.

The Committee on Correspondence made a special report on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, taking the ground that a Grand Lodge which recognizes and fraternizes with a clandestine lodge or its members, thereby makes itself clandestine. The report was adopted unanimously with the following recommendation:

"The Grand Master of Washington asserts that their action in this matter is a matter of 'internal affairs' and 'private judgment,' and so it is. But it is also a matter of external or foreign concern in its effect upon other Grand Lodges when it trenches upon their jurisdiction and authority. The Grand Lodge of Washington must recognize and fraternize with either one or the other of the Grand Lodges in this jurisdiction, but it cannot maintain fraternal relations with both. Having recognized a Grand Lodge in this jurisdiction which is clandestine, it has given us cause of complaint which our self-respect compels us to notice and govern ourselves accordingly.

"We therefore recommend that fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington be suspended until that Grand Lodge shall have withdrawn its recognition of the clandestine lodges in this jurisdiction."

A new proof of the antiquity of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has been found in the archives of the American Philosophical Society, of which Bro. Benjamin Franklin was the first President. It is an account book of Franklin's, commencing in 1730, and the entries show that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was in active life prior to September, 1731.

The Grand Master reports four new lodges. He issued an edict forbidding Masonic intercourse with a resident who had been rejected twice in Pennsylvania and who went abroad and was made a Mason in Scotland. The debt of the Grand Lodge has been reduced during his two years of office by the sum of \$153,650.00. It now stands at \$258,150.

The Committee on Correspondence consists of five members and they all share in the work. Bro. Michael Arnold is the Chairman. A very favorable review of Canada for 1898 is by Bro. James M. Lamberton. The public installation of officers is justly condemned by both Bro. B. W. James and Bro. Lamberton.

Lodges, 433; members, 53,100; increase, 1,057.

Henry W. Williams (Philadelphia), G.M.

William A. Sinn (Philadelphia), G.S.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

23rd Communication, Summerside, June 24, 1898.

Leonard Morris, G.M.

An emergent meeting was held on Oct. 13, 1897, to celebrate the Centennial of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of Charlottetown.

The Grand Master visited a number of lodges and reports them in fair condition and holding their own in membership. A new lodge was opened at Cape Traverse.

Lodges, 13; members, 525; increase, 44.4

Leonard Marris (Summerside), G.M.

Neil MacKelvie (Summerside), G.S.

QUEBEC.

29th Communication, Montreal, January 24, 1899.

E. T. D. Chambers, G.M.

They have reason to be congratulated on the progress of the Craft in a jurisdiction where the majority of the population are enjoined by their religious superiors to be hostile to the Fraternity. We quote one of the opening paragraphs of the able address of the Grand Master:

"It is estimated that our institution to-day includes 1,365,000 members. Thirty years will have elapsed in the month of October next since the foundations of the Grand Lodge of Quebec were firmly and enduringly laid by the fathers of this Grand Body, of whom a few remain to this present, though the greater number have fallen asleep. The 21 lodges which united on the 20th of October, 1869, in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, contained but a very limited membership. Ten years ago the number of these owing obedience to this Grand Lodge was 2,820. To-day I am proud to be able to report that we have 56 chartered lodges, and two under dis-

pensation upon the register of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, with a total membership of over 3,400, which, in view of the peculiar circumstances operating against us in the Province of Quebec, may certainly be considered a remarkable showing. Well, indeed, did the Architects and Builders of this Grand Lodge design and execute their working plans."

On the situation between Quebec and England, the Grand Master relates some correspondence and then says:

"In accordance with M. W. Bro. Walkem's request, I have issued instructions for the deposit, in our archives, of the copies of his letters, forwarded me by M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master. Their publication, as Bro. Walkem points out, would not contribute to the furtherance of that Masonic unity and concord which we all so much desire. M. W. Bro. Walkem's mediatorial efforts have fallen short of the hoped-for result through no fault of his. His correspondence shows that he has exhausted all the means at his disposal for removing the Masonic differences existing in this jurisdiction. In these efforts to promote the welfare of the Craft at large, he has spared neither time nor expense. Nor is this all. He states that if he can be of any further service as a negotiator, he will be only too happy to act. His labors merit the gratitude, not only of this Grand Lodge, but of all who are interested in the union of Masonic work and influence, and the unity of the jurisdictional government of the Craft. Much good work for the betterment of the race, on the part of both moralists and philanthropists, would be far more effective than it is, but for those unhappy divisions that interfere with a proper unification of energy and action.

"The Grand Lodge of Quebec has long and strenuously endeavored, by all the means at her disposal, to attain the end to which M. W. Bro. Walkem's efforts were directed. The sovereignty of this Grand Lodge is so firmly established and so universally recognized that its dignity can no longer be affected by circumstances over which it has no control, or a division which it has done its best to heal. I am thankful to say that our relations with our brethren of the English lodges in this city are at present those of amity, peace and fraternity. Nothing further would seem to remain to us than to await with patience the healing effects of time. Animated by the same zeal, moved by the same impulses, devoted to the same objects, bent upon the same beneficent mission, and combatted by the same hostile influences as we are, our brethren of the English lodges in Montreal are still separated from us; though to them the dividing line may appear but the narrow veil of jurisdictional sentiment. While wishing them well we cannot conceal the fact that there are obstacles enough to the progress of the Order in Quebec without the added difficulty and paralyzing influences of a jurisdictional dividing line; and that the lessons of Freemasonry will be best both exemplified and

taught by a perfect solidarity of all the lodges, in addition to our present unity of sympathy and purpose.

"I have the honor to recommend that an expression of the thanks of this Grand Lodge be forwarded to M. W. Bro. Walkem for his efforts as mediator between us and the Grand Lodge of England in the matter of the three lodges in this city still holding warrants from that Grand Lodge."

A new lodge was formed at Agnes, Lake Megantic.

A resolution was passed expressing the deep sympathy of the Grand Lodge with M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, P.G.M., who was absent from the session owing to serious illness. We sincerely join in their hope that he may soon be restored to health:

The following resolutions were adopted:

"That whereas, It is advisable in the interest of the Craft in this Masonic Jurisdiction, that the control and charge of the Masonic Temple in the City of Montreal should, as far as possible, and as soon as circumstances will permit, pass into the hands of this Grand Lodge;

"And whereas, It is advisable that the acquisition of the Masonic Temple should be secured in such manner as will comprise as a part of any arrangement leading to that object, the founding of a permanent Benevolent Fund, to be devoted to giving aid, succor and relief, to poor and distressed Masons within our jurisdiction;

"It is resolved, That at its next Annual Communication, this Grand Lodge consider, and if approved, carry into effect a resolution appointing trustees, who will be authorized to receive from brethren, owners of the stock in the Montreal Temple Company, any such stock they may desire to transfer to the Grand Lodge, in furtherance of the objects of this resolution;

"And it is further resolved, That, at the next Annual Communication, a resolution be proposed, and, if approved, carried into effect by altering or amending the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, so as to secure an annual contribution from each and every member of a lodge in this jurisdiction, of ten cents per month, to aid in establishing a permanent Benevolent Fund, the amount so collected to be applied in securing the property of the Temple Co., and all the revenues accruing thereto, such revenue to be distributed equitably for the purpose of relief and assistance to the needy, sick or distressed Masons in the different sections in the Province;

"It is also resolved, That in order that the subject matter of this resolution be brought prominently before each member of the Craft, the incoming officers of this Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby requested, to place this resolution before them by a circular, or, through the Grand Lodge officers, as soon as they may deem it convenient and advisable, in order that the whole subject will receive from the Craft at large the consideration it deserves."

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Will H. Whyte and is fully up to his usual high standard. Our Proceedings of 1898 are fraternally noticed.

Lodges, 57; members, 3,643; increase, 53.

Benjamin Tooke (Montreal), G.M.

John H. Isaacson (Montreal), G.S.

RHODE ISLAND.

108th Communication, Providence, May 16, 1898.

Cyrus M. Van Slyck, G.M.

We take the following paragraphs from his excellent address:

"It is with peculiar gratification that we note a steady and healthy growth in our mystic art. Shown, perhaps, most strikingly in the fact that the brethren in the city of Pawtucket have recently moved into a magnificent and convenient Masonic home, and that the brethren in the city of Providence have even more recently re-established themselves in their commodious structure erected upon the site of the Freemasons' Hall, destroyed by fire March 19, 1896. The Masonic Temple in Pawtucket and the Freemasons' Hall in Providence are noble monuments to the zeal and devotion of the members of our ancient fraternity, and striking evidences of the prosperity of our Order." * * *

"It seems proper that I should state now that my personal opinion is that the use of robes or special costumes is extremely inappropriate in a symbolic lodge. Bro. Mackey says: 'A proposition was made in the Grand Lodge of England on April 8, 1778, that the Grand Master and his officers should be distinguished in future at all public meetings by robes.' 'This measure,' Preston says, 'was at first favorably received, but it was, on investigation, found to be so diametrically opposed to the original plan of the institution, that it was very properly laid aside. In no jurisdiction are robes used in Symbolic Masonry.'

"It would be unfortunate and a great mistake to depart from the uniform simplicity which has characterized Freemasonry in New England, and in seeking after theatrical display to an innovation likely to result in jealous contention between lodges of unequal financial ability." * * *

"Remembering at this time some of the differences that have been submitted to my official determination, and recalling the manner in which they have been submitted, I am profoundly impressed that the tenets of Freemasonry have a present vital force, not merely theoretical and sentimental, but exerting a practical and beneficial influence upon the lives and conduct of those who profess it.

"The great principles which lie at the foundation of our Order, brotherly love, relief and truth, in a broad and liberal

sense, will be found to be the great principles underlying advanced civilization and social progress. The genius of Freemasonry is the genius of a free and enlightened people.

"Remembering the universality of Freemasonry, may we not believe that it is to the truths taught in our assemblies that the world is indebted for the unusual and glorious spectacle of a nation entering upon an armed contest, not for pecuniary gain, not for territorial aggrandizement, but for the relief of a distressed people, recognized as brothers, because the children of one Almighty Father?"

"It is a solemn thought which should be constantly with us, who have been chosen to legislate for and watch over the interests of our beloved institutions, that upon us rests the responsibility of so legislating and so caring for those interests that our Masonic light may shine with a radiance divinely pure, and the tenets of our institution be transmitted unimpaired from generation to generation."

A revised Constitution was adopted.

The Grand Master prohibited the use of the stereopticon pictures in degree work.

Lodges, 37; members, 5,164; increase, 47.

Cyrus M. Van Slyck (Providence), G.M.

Edwin Baker (Providence), G.S.

SCOTLAND.

The imposing list of Office-Bearers contains a Patron, the Prince of Wales; the Grand Master, Lord Saltoun; four Past Grand Masters; the Grand Master Depute; the Substitute Grand Master, and a long list of Provincial Grand Masters.

They have Quarterly Communications on the first Thursday in February, May, August and November and an Annual Communication for the election and installation of officers on the Festival of St. Andrew, November 30th.

The list of lodges is headed by Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, then there are three lodges bearing the number one, the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), Melrose St. John, and Aberdeen. No. 2 is Canongate Kilwinning, Edinburgh, then two number threes, Scoon and Perth; and The Lodge of Glasgow St. John. No. 4 is Glasgow Kilwinning.

There are 616 lodges on the roll, of which 205 are located out of Scotland. The names of these locations form a striking illustration of how Scotchmen have conquered

the world. They are as follows: India, Queensland, New Zealand, Western Australia, Hawaiian Islands, Cape Colony, Natal, The Transvaal, Orange Free States, Rhodesia, Mauritius, West India Islands, Trinidad, Bahamas, Bermuda, Newfoundland, Gibraltar, Peru, Chili, Nicaragua, China, Japan, Egypt, Danish West Indies, Fiji Islands, Syria, Asia Minor, British Guiana, and the Republic of Columbia.

At the meeting on February 2, 1899, the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized. A motion that Grand Lodge, in opening and closing, use the old Scottish knocks in the various degrees, was negatived by a vote of 304 to 78. The work of the lodges is generally good and in some cases shows a marked improvement over previous years. A new lodge was chartered in the Transvaal.

At a visitation to the lodge at Ayr, the Grand Master gave an address from which we take the following:

"There have been already three visitations to this Province by three separate Grand Masters, and I make the fourth, which shows that since you became a Provincial Grand Lodge you were not ashamed to show to the highest in authority what you had done. I have learned several things in connection with this Province, which have greatly interested me, amongst others the fact that you have a bursary fund. I am bound to say such an idea never entered my mind. I had in my mind that the erection of Masonic schools should be encouraged in this country, and I think your proposal is unique in Scottish Masonry. All credit is due to you for it. There is another thing I should refer to, and that is that each lodge in your Province is endeavoring now to procure for itself a place of meeting outside licensed premises. I think that this is a most important thing. This beautiful lodge room in which we are now is an example of what may be done by a lodge. Out of the large number of lodges in this province very few meet in places of public entertainment. I trust that the others will also in time find quarters in some other place. Build halls and so forth. You have done a great deal in the way of laying foundation stones and taking part in public functions, which goes to show the outside public that Freemasons are a body of men who are to be dealt with, and that they give honor to any public entertainment to which they give their patronage. I am glad to learn that the average number of intrants in the lodges in the Province is 200. All the lodges are in a most satisfactory state."

On August 4, 1898, a Grand Lodge presentation was made to their able and highly esteemed Grand Secretary,

D. Murray Lyon, on the completion of his 21st year of service.

Rt. Hon. Lord Saltoun (Philorth, Fraserburgh), G.M.
D. Murray Lyon (Edinburgh), G.S.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

122nd Communication, Charleston, Dec. 13, 1893.

Jacob T. Barron, G.M.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:

"While in some lodges, and even in some sections of the State, Masonry is not flourishing as it should, I am glad to be able to report that, as a rule, we see much that is encouraging, and in many instances satisfactory. I find that the officers are becoming more familiar with the revised ritual, and, as a natural consequence, the attendance is generally larger, and more interest is displayed. The extreme low price of cotton, causing a 'financial depression' that is painfully felt throughout our State, has no doubt kept down a large increase in our membership; but I have great faith in the happy results sure to flow from a uniform ritual and the visits of Grand Lodge officers to subordinate lodges. I do not attach much importance to numbers. Instead of taking membership as the evidence of our condition, let us remember that it is only when we reflect in our daily lives the teachings of our noble Order, that we can truly say we are prosperous."

The District Deputies rendered valuable assistance, visiting most of the lodges and keeping in touch with their requirements.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Washington having seen fit, at its last Annual Communication, to pass a resolution recognizing as legitimate the Negro Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge of South Carolina wishes to express its most unqualified condemnation of this action, and hereby severs all fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington and its subordinates."

Bro. Charles Inglesby presented an excellent report on Correspondence. Our Proceedings of 1897 are well noticed. He says that there is a Grand Lodge in Mexico which is fighting the Gran Dieta, and which claims to have a large and influential following. "The smoke of the contest still obscures the Mexican Masonic field, and we will wait until that has entirely cleared away."

Lodges, 185; members, 5,840; decrease, 13.

Bartlett J. Witherspoon (Lancaster), G.M.

Charles Inglesby (Charleston), G.S.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Half-yearly Communication, October 20, 1897.

Rt. Hon. S. J. Way, G.M.

The Grand Master is the Chief Justice of the Colony. On his visit to England, he had presented to the Queen the joint address of all the Australian Colonies. The Grand Lodge of England had conferred upon him the rank of Past Senior Grand Warden.

A new lodge was opened at Snowtown.

During the half-year 54 petitioners were relieved from the Benevolent Fund to the extent of \$700. Monthly payments are being made to six widows and two brothers, amounting to \$45 per month.

Annual Communication, Adelaide, April 20, 1898.

In the report of the Board of General Purposes, we find the following :

"The balance to credit of General Fund is £244 19s. 1d.; Available Benevolent Fund, £662 19s. 10d.; Permanent Benevolent Fund, £1,155 10s. 10d.

"The Trustees of the Freemasons' Hall property submit their balance sheet at 31st December, 1897, which shows a balance to credit of £10,672 14s. 9d. on revenue account. The total value of the assets of the trust is £14,738 7s. 11d.

"In consequence of the annual income of the General Fund of Grand Lodge having been for some years less than the expenditure, the amount to the credit of the fund has been considerably reduced. The Board has, therefore, had under its consideration the question of either increasing the income or decreasing the expenditure. At this juncture the Grand Secretary has voluntarily offered to accept a reduction of £25 per annum in his salary for two years. The Board, although loth to accept this sacrifice on his part, has availed itself of the offer, and trust that together with the exercise of more strict economy in other respects, the receipts and expenditure may be made to balance without increased contributions being required from the lodges. It will be remembered that at the establishment of the Grand Lodge the contributions of the lodges to the General Fund was fixed at 1s. per quarter per member, but some years ago this was reduced to 9d., and it is hoped that there will be no necessity to revert to the old scale of payment.

"During the past half-year 55 petitioners have been relieved from the Available Benevolent Fund to the amount of £118 7s. By means of the Permanent Benevolent Fund assistance is afforded periodically to worthy cases. At the present time there are on the fund six widows and three brothers, receiving amounts varying from £1 to £1 10s. a month. The strictest in-

vestigation is made into each application to the board, and it is believed that the funds are wisely administered."

The Grand Inspector of Lodges visited all the lodges except one, and found them working satisfactorily.

Lodges, 41; members, 2,332; increase, 66.

Rt. Hon. Samuel J. Way (Adelaide), G.M.

J. H. Cunningham (Adelaide), G.S.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

24th Communication, Sioux Falls, June 14, 1898.

Albert W. Coe, G.M.

The Grand Lecturer held 16 Schools of Instruction. The work of the lodges is pronounced satisfactory, but the use of key is quite prevalent.

The Governor of the State, Bro. Andrew E. Lee, was received with the Grand Honors.

A request for a "travelling lodge," in connection with a State Regiment of Volunteers, was refused.

It was not thought advisable to have a permanent location of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. William Blatt, on the subject of non-affiliation, says:

"This subject, though somewhat subsiding, is still a constant topic of argument and legislation. The latter is as varied as the colors of the rainbow. In one jurisdiction less than 50 miles distant the thumb-screw legislation of '95 was amended the year following, and withal so complicated that an attorney from the Quaker City would have been lost in its mazes. In '97 the whole subject was re-codified and re-enacted in a manner comprehensible to laymen. The strict enforcement of the very plain and simple regulations of our own Grand Lodge, we deem all that is necessary to do, all that we ought to do. While membership in the lodge is a Masonic duty, a duty existent since the organization of lodges, yet we have failed to see any benefits derived by coercion in the line of legislation."

Canada for 1897 receives due attention.

Lodges, 93; members, 4,460; increase, 152.

Louis G. Levoy (Webster), G.M.

George A. Pettigrew (Flandreau), G.S.

TENNESSEE.

85th Communication, Nashville, January 25, 1899.

William H. Bumpas, G.M.

He appealed to the brethren of Tennessee for funds to

build a much-needed addition to their Masonic Home, it being entirely inadequate to accommodate the demands made by the lodges for the maintenance of the widows and orphans of their deceased brethren. The appeal was eminently successful, the new cottage being built and paid for and furnished entirely by the voluntary contributions of their own members. The Home has 108 inmates and the annual cost per capita is \$55.66.

The Grand Lodge decided to return to the system of appointing Grand Representatives.

The following report was adopted :

"Your committee approves the recommendation of the Grand Master for a suspension of fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington, on account of its violation of the fundamental doctrines of American Freemasonry, that the Masonic authority in any State must be sole, single, and exclusive, and the necessary corollary that all other bodies and persons claiming to be Masonic are clandestine.

"We can not but regret that our brethren of the far Northwest have felt impelled to become pioneers in prevarication and in Masonic disturbance, as well as in progress and civilization; and that any theoretical and disingenuous abstractions have led them to embark upon perilous seas of impracticable navigation and inevitable Masonic destruction.

"Thirty-four years ago, during the incumbency of our present Senior Past Grand Master Hamilton, this Grand Lodge, in accord with Massachusetts, unanimously adopted the following preamble and resolutions:

"Whereas, Information has been received by this Grand Lodge that associations of negroes, claiming to be Free and Accepted Masons, have been organized in the State of Tennessee, without any legal Masonic authority; therefore,

"Resolved, That all such associations are hereby declared to be spurious, illegal, and clandestine, and all Masons owing allegiance to this Grand Lodge are hereby forbidden to hold Masonic communication with any such association, or with any person in this State or any other claiming to belong thereto, or holding fellowship therewith; and it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that no Masonic authority can or ought to be granted for any such purpose."

"This resolution stands unrepealed, and expresses the convictions of Freemasons in this State now as fairly as it did in 1865. We believe these associations to be spurious, illegal, and clandestine now, as they were in 1865.

"The Grand Lodge of Washington not only expresses a contrary and repugnant opinion, but even goes to the length of abdicating its sole and exclusive sovereignty in that State, where its own lodges were first established and its supreme authority unquestionable, and acknowledges the equal powers

and rights of another Grand Body and of subordinates thereunder to exercise sovereignty and jurisdiction within the boundaries of that State. By so doing the Grand Lodge of Washington has forfeited all claim to our Masonic recognition and placed itself beyond the pale of fraternal relations. We therefore recommend the adoption by this Grand Lodge of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Tennessee hereby indefinitely suspends all fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons hitherto exercising jurisdiction in the State of Washington."

In his review of Indian Territory, Bro. George H. Morban has the following very sensible remarks on a case where six members of a lodge applied for their demits, as they "believed the Bible taught it was wrong to belong to the Masonic Institution," and in place of getting their demits, they were tried under charges and expelled:

"We think the ruling, as well as the action of the lodge, contrary to both the spirit and letter of Masonic law. When the candidate first crosses the Masonic threshold, is there nothing in the assurance given him that what he is about to take upon himself does not conflict with his religious or political notions, be they what they may, or that conflicts with his duty to his family, himself, his country, or his God? Is there any Medo-Persian law in Masonry that compels him to hold to the views on religion and religious duty he entertains when he becomes a Mason, under pain of expulsion if he changes? We claim to be 'Free and Accepted Masons!' Is there no meaning in the word 'Free?' The very quotation from the Constitution given by Grand Master Scott plainly shows the ruling to be erroneous. To become a Mason a man must be 'free born.' In becoming a member he surrenders none of his freedom, but only takes on himself additional obligations and duties."

Canada for 1898 is fraternally reviewed.

Lodges, 428; members, 17,248; decrease, 340.

Joseph H. Bullock (Paris), G.M.

John B. Garrett (Nashville), G.S.

TEXAS.

63rd Communication, Houston, Dec. 6, 1898.

John L. Terrell, G.M.

The Grand Master issued dispensations for six new lodges, and declined to issue one for an "Army" lodge.

The Special Committee on Negro Masonry in connection with the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington

presented an elaborate report, from which we take the following:

"If the Grand Lodge of Washington had acted hastily in recognizing clandestine Masons, the off-spring of spurious bodies, its conduct, while admitting the palliation of haste and ignorance, would nevertheless be highly reprehensible. But to do this after a thorough consideration, and upon the elaborate report of a committee of twelve months' standing, it can not even plead the poor excuse of ignorance and is without the shadow of justification. It has recklessly reopened a question which has been twice disposed of by the Grand Lodges of America, and to all intents finally settled in 1876. It has deliberately recognized the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and its offshoots as legitimate, and has agreed that a separate Grand Lodge may be established in its own territory, in this last respect subverting the fundamental American and English doctrine of territorial jurisdiction. We think that the Grand Lodge of Washington is inconsistent and disingenuous, in that it recognizes spurious Negro Masonry as genuine, which means, of course, visitation and Masonic intercourse, but in the same breath it tells them that the social relations of the white and black are of such a nature that they must establish their own colored lodges, and it will allow them to have their own colored Grand Lodge, which will be recognized as legitimate Masonry. Our brethren of Washington do not attempt to explain this absurdity. If the Prince Hall Negro Masons are Masons, they are entitled to the same rights and privileges as all other Masons, and it won't do for the Grand Lodge of Washington to attempt to discriminate against them by virtue of race or color. The truth is, they are not and never have been Masons, and the great blunder of the Grand Lodge of Washington is in undertaking to admit them as such. Under the circumstances it would seem idle to attempt to argue with our erring brethren of Washington. The wise course for us to follow is to suspend all fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, leaving her to follow her own lonely and erratic orbit until she sees the folly of her ways and recants her errors."

The report then goes into the history of the subject, and concludes with a resolution of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, which was unanimously adopted.

The Masonic Home at Fort Worth is soon to be an accomplished fact.

In his review of Missouri, Bro. Thomas M. Matthews explains the reason why their Deputy Grand Master exercises concurrent jurisdiction with the Grand Master.

"Speaking of the decisions made by our Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Vincil says: 'The thought came up what if he and

his chief should differ? Again, why have a double-headed government? Is not a Grand Master supreme during his official term? If so, how can there be two supreme heads to the same body? We answer: There is no danger of a difference, or rather of a clash, my brother, for the same question is never referred to both the Grand Master and the Deputy by the same individual. As you know, Texas is a very large State. Contains as many square miles as almost any other three in the Union, and for convenience of the craft the two officers are invested with very nearly equal powers. When, however, both are present the Grand Master has precedence. At an early day in Texas, when the facilities for communication were not so good as now, it took often as much as three months to get a reply to a letter from the Grand Master. Forty-five years ago, I remember, the Grand Tyler, old Bro. Sanford, told me it took him three months to go from his home to the Grand Lodge at San Antonio and back, upon his mustang pony. To obviate such difficulty we suppose the Deputy was vested with power to decide the questions submitted to him, to issue dispensations, etc. This explanation also answers our brother's third and fourth query. The arrangement was made for convenience sake, and so far as we know has answered its purpose. 'Sabe si,' Bro. Vincil?"

Our Proceedings of 1897 and 1898 receive courteous attention.

Lodges, 626; members, 27,718; decrease, 765.

Sam R. Hamilton (Farmersville), G.M.

John Watson (Houston), G.S.

UTAH.

28th Communication, Salt Lake City, January 17, 1899.

John F. Hardie, G.M.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:

The Masons in the Klondike region are fully cognizant of their duties and perform them:

"On June 7th a letter was received by Bro. F. C. Schramm from Bro. O. G. Randall from Lake Bennett, N. W. T., Canada, on his way to the Klondyke, informing him of the death of Bro. E. A. Ireland, of Wasatch Lodge No. 1, of this city, in which he states that Bro. Ireland died at that place of dropsy of the heart. The remains were embalmed and dressed in the best manner the conditions of such a wild country would permit, and that between 75 and 100 Masons gathered to pay the last sad rites to a departed brother, after which they formed in line and escorted the body to the foot of Lake Linderman, where it was given in charge of the packers, who brought it to Dyea over the Chilkoot Pass trail, and from there shipped to Seattle, where it was received by St. John's Lodge No. 9, of

that city, and shipped by them to Wasatch Lodge, of this city, and interred in Mt. Olivet cemetery."

The Grand Master also mentions a meeting of Uintah Lodge, held on the top of a high mountain overlooking Park City.

There is a general revival of all kinds of business in their rich and fertile State, and they have bright prospects for the future.

On the recognition of Negro Masons by the Grand Lodge of Washington, the following resolutions were passed:

"Resolved first, That we regret exceedingly the action taken in this matter by the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"Resolved second, That we dissent both from its premises and conclusions, and can find no warrant for the departure from long established customs which must result from such action.

"Resolved third, That we fraternally implore our brethren of that State which bears the name of the foremost great Mason of the land, as they love the institution of Freemasonry, and desire to maintain that harmony which should ever prevail among us, to gather to their full strength at their next Annual Communication, and rescind the action which is the cause of so much alarm and unrest among the fraternity East, West, North and South."

Recognition of the Grand Orient of Belgium was deferred. The Grand Lodge of Utah has never yet recognized a Grand Orient.

Bro. Christopher Diehl presented his 23rd report on Correspondence. In his review of California he says:

"If we read correctly between the lines our brethren in California do indulge more or less in the electioneering business, and in order to prevent that a resolution was introduced to amend the Constitution, providing for the election of Grand Officers in the afternoon of the first day's session, instead of the fourth day. If the amendment had been adopted it would have shortened the time of the Masonic politicians, but it failed to carry. The Jurisprudence Committee was favorably impressed with the commendable purpose of the proposed amendment, but was of the opinion that the change would be inadequate to remedy the evil complained of. In Utah we have a constitutional law forbidding electioneering and the member of Grand Lodge or of a lodge who solicits votes, either for himself or for another brother, will be charged with a Masonic offense and punished. Since that law was adopted by our Grand Lodge electioneering is a thing of the past. We advise our Californian brethren to adopt it or a similar one."

Our benevolent work is commended as "a remarkable showing and redounds to our honor."

Lodges, 9; members, 807; increase, 17.

James D. Murdoch (Park City), G.M.

Christopher Diehl (Salt Lake City), G.S.

VERMONT.

105th Communication, Burlington, June 15, 1898.

Daniel N. Nicholson, G.M.

Their new Masonic Temple was dedicated on the first day of the session with imposing ceremonies.

In the report of the Grand Lecturer we find the following:

"It has been my good fortune and pleasure to be present at all District meetings held during the year. In some instances I was obliged to attend alone, as it was impossible for Grand Lodge officers to accompany me. Owing to onerous duties in connection with the building of the Temple, the Grand Master was able to be present at only four meetings. Am glad to report, however, the presence of the Deputy Grand Master on four occasions, the Grand Senior Warden one, and the Grand Junior Warden one.

"Since the introduction of the so-called 'new floor work,' which is now most generously approved and heartily supported, the word 'uniformity' seems to be one of the most prominent in our Masonic vocabulary. We not only see uniformity in floor work, but it is surprisingly manifest in the rendering of the ritual, the uniform accuracy of which to me seems wonderful. Uniformity is also noticeable in the magnitude of the attendance, and last but not least in the courtesies extended, which, together with the fraternal spirit and brotherly feeling shown, all more than suggest a superior development, and a pardonable pride in believing that we are living in one of the brightest Masonic Grand Jurisdictions under the sun."

Most of the lodges have done considerable work and generally the work has been of a higher grade. They have 13 District Deputies, who keep things in order. One of them says:

"The institution is improving in the quality of material being taken in. Fresh young blood, bright, intelligent young men, men who are of the best families and of the highest standing in the community are seeking admission into our Order, to an extent hitherto unknown, and it seems, greater interest is being taken by the old, as well as the young members, than it has ever been my good fortune to notice before, and that brotherly love prevails throughout the district."

And another proves his quality by the following excellent sentiments:

"The more essential principles of Freemasonry pervade the membership, as shown by the solemn and impressive manner of opening and closing the lodges and conferring of the degrees. Quite a notable change in this regard as compared to thirty years ago, for the better, is very patent. There is still a large field and good opportunity in this district for officers, as well as members, to improve, elevate and advance Masonry, especially along the lines of social intercourse; more cordiality, less reserve, a warm and sincere greeting on all occasions toward each other. Some apparently never knew or have forgotten the landmarks of the equality of Masons and that we meet on the level wheresoever assembled as a Masonic body or otherwise. The tenets of Masonry in this jurisdiction are taught and practiced very much to the credit of the brethren, and the results are satisfactory. The aim is to live and act the golden rule; and a determination so to do makes better the man who has promised at our altar to be just and true and do right. Rectitude of life—a good example—moral culture and conduct, are of the greatest importance; acts speak louder than words, and it is by our conduct we are judged.

Men of character only should be our official leaders in the subordinate lodges. Ambition for office should be encouraged, yet the welfare of Masonry generally should be the first consideration.

"Intemperance and immorality of every nature must be eliminated from the lodge room and all mere public gatherings. The standard of our grand Order can be sustained in this day of Christian advancement only by doing all we teach and claim.

"To be a speculative Mason in its broadest and most liberal meaning, calls for honest motives, pure lives and Christian character. Reputed violation of rules of propriety should not be tolerated in our fraternity. Our motto should ever be, work diligently for the advancement of the principles of our noble institution."

Bro. Marsh O. Perkins has a very interesting report on Correspondence, in which the Proceedings of Canada for 1897 receive most favorable mention.

Lodges, 102; members, 9,886; increase, 128.

Daniel N. Nicholson (Burlington), G.M.

Warren G. Reynolds (Burlington), G.S.

VICTORIA.

Quarterly Communication, Melbourne, March 16, 1898.

The Board of Benevolence received 221 applications during the year, of which 64 were refused, and 157 were

relieved to the extent of over \$4,000. Special grants were also given amounting to over \$5,000.

It was noted that the Grand Lodge National of Egypt had warned its lodges against the action of the Rite of Memphis in breaking its concordat and taking over the working of the symbolic degrees.

At the installation of officers on May 18, 1898, the following protest was made:

"The M. W. the Acting Grand Master in the chair, said he deeply regretted being compelled to draw attention to what in his opinion was an irregularity about to be committed by members of Grand Lodge, viz., installing the M. W. Grand Master in his absence from the colony of Victoria. He (the Acting Grand Master) contended that such a proceeding would be contrary to the landmarks and customs of the Order, and also to the Book of Constitutions. As the M. W. the Grand Master-Elect was not present to be installed, he (the Acting Grand Master) would vacate the throne in favor of the R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, but before doing so would hand in his written protest against the proposed proceedings. The protest was as follows:

"United Grand Lodge of Victoria,
"May 18th, 1898.

"To the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Bro. George Baker:

"Dear Sir and R. W. Brother—

"I beg most fraternally to protest against the irregular installation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master-Elect, Bro. His Excellency Lord Brassey, K.C.B., etc., during his absence from the colony of Victoria, as the proposed ceremony, without the personal attendance of the M. W. Grand Master-Elect to take the necessary obligation of office, to be regularly invested, and to take possession of the emblem of power and the throne of authority would be an infringement of the 'Ancient Landmarks' and 'Customs' of Free and Accepted Masons, and also in direct opposition to clauses 14 and 18 of the Book of Constitutions, Laws and Regulations of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria.

"I have the honor to remain,

"Dear Sir and R. W. Brother,

"Yours fraternally,

"GEO. COPPIN, P. G. M.'

"The R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. George Baker, said that before receiving the protest he must say that the practice of the Grand Lodge of England had been for many years to proclaim the Grand Master in his absence, and this Grand Lodge could not go far wrong in following such a precedent. Furthermore, the same course which it was now proposed to follow, had been adopted in the case of the late Pro. Grand Master, Bro. Sir W. J. Clarke, when absent from the colony on one occasion.

"V. W. Bro. J. Drysdale Brown, Grand Registrar, submitted that the course about to be followed was a correct and proper one, and moved 'that the business of the evening be proceeded with.' M. W. Bro. Coppin then retired from the lodge and R. W. Bro. Baker ascended the throne.

"R. W. Bro. Sir M. H. Davies, P. S. G. W., seconded the motion of the V. W. the Grand Registrar.

"R. W. Bro. Edward Edwards, P. S. G. W., wished to move an amendment which the Acting Grand Master in the chair declined to receive.

"The motion was put to Grand Lodge and carried.

"The Grand Director of Ceremonies then proclaimed M. W. Bro. the Right Honorable Thomas Baron Brassey, K. C. B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Victoria and its dependencies, etc., etc., as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria for the ensuing twelve months."

June 15, 1898. A lodge was reprimanded and fined \$5 for holding its regular meeting on a day other than that named in its by-laws and for conferring a degree in too short a time.

Lodges, 170; members, 7,548; decrease, 129.

Lord Brasey (Melbourne), G.M.

John Braim (Melbourne), G.S.

VIRGINIA.

121st Communication, Richmond, Dec. 6, 1898.

R.T.W. Duke, Jr., G.M.

Four of their Past Grand Masters died during the year. We quote one of the decisions of the Grand Master:

"2. A brother duly qualified was elected Master during his absence. He declined to be installed. I held that under the Ahiman Rezon (Dove's Text Book, Second Edition, page 99), the brother could not decline. He should submit to be installed and then, under Section 178, Methodical Digest, he could resign. I instructed the District Deputy Grand Master to urge this course upon the brother, and if he declined to have charges preferred against him for un-Masonic conduct. This latter course, however, I am happy to say, was not necessary."

Rather hard lines, we would say, that a brother should be charged almost like a criminal because he does not want office. We are glad to notice, however, that the Grand Lodge amended their law so as to allow any officer-elect to decline installation.

The Grand Master very justly condemns the reckless way in which Masonic matters are published in newspapers.

Four new lodges were formed.

President McKinley was made a Mason at Winchester, Virginia, during the Civil War.

The conclusion of the excellent address of Bro. Duke is a gem:

"I have but few suggestions to make. Peace and harmony reign amongst the lodges of this jurisdiction, and the true Masonic spirit seems to me to be ever on the increase.

"I regret to note, however, that the social feature of our institution is not as largely cultivated as it should be in the subordinate lodges, and that there is occasionally a spirit of fault-finding at expenditure for social purposes. My brethren, Masonry is a social institution, organized not purely and simply as an order of builders with charitable purposes. Charity is its corner-stone, its cap-stone, but not charity in the lowest sense of the word, which confines itself merely to giving. The Masonic charity is that love which strives to unite men of different ranks and degrees in life into a band of brothers, which strives to make them know each other better and cultivate the genial, whole-souled appreciation of one another's qualities which will ripen into mutual friendship and esteem. These things cannot be taught in ceremonials even as sublime as ours. Little can be accomplished in formal business meetings, where even warmest friends sometimes clash. There must be friendly association in social converse, and I know of nothing better calculated to bring men together than entertainments in the nature of our old-time suppers, dinners and receptions. The supper need not be that of Lucullus, the dinner cooked by a chef and served by trained attendants, nor the reception an affair of dress suits and studied formality. Nay, better the dinner of herbs where love is than the stalled ox where love is not; and better an humble entertainment where the opportunity is given for friendly chat, a merry song or two, a few pleasant, clean jokes, and an early home-going, than stiff entertainment, no matter how elegantly served, if constraint is there. Cultivate our social features, brethren. Have at least once a quarter a modest entertainment in your lodges. Don't meet and eat and run, but meet and eat and stay and talk and learn to know each other better. You will find it pays not only in the money chest, but in that treasury—which, if empty, God pity us all—the treasury of the human heart.

"I am also constrained to regret that well-meaning, as it may be, but unwise and improper attempt to engraft upon Masonry ideas of form and government and laws borrowed from other fraternal organizations, due no doubt to the active participation of some of our good brethren in the work of these excellent organizations. Brethren, our ways are not as their ways, nor our methods theirs. Our institution is not a benefit society; not an insurance organization; not a temperance society. It is not governed by any written constitution. The will of the majority does not always rule, thank God. We have

no 'rights' for which we can appeal to any other tribunal than our own. Our government is unique, ancient, nay, tyrannical, and yet without a tyrant. Our laws, our forms, our ceremonies, are hoary with antiquity and tried and tested in the crucible of time. Let us resist with strenuous force all efforts to weaken what is our great strength, our intense conservatism. In this restless day of change and strife and new ideas, let Masonry at least walk wisely and honestly. Let us not fail to remember when some tempting draught of newly-made 'progressive' wine is held to our lips, the admonition, 'the old is better.'

"Drummond, the great Masonic scholar, has said: 'Let us direct our efforts to understand and practice Masonry as it is and not waste them in seeking to improve it.'

"I would this sentence could be framed and hung in every lodge room; read aloud at every communication of our lodges, and the changes rung upon it until it became almost a command.

"The study of our great institution, its principles, its symbolism, the laws which govern it, is a work worthy of any man's effort, and the more one studies Masonry the less he sees of any need of improvement.

"Life after all is but a great school whose graduation—Death—ushers us into the University of Eternity, where we are to apply, in everlasting study of God's love and God's creations, the lessons learned here.

"Woe to the idler, the fool, the sluggard in this earthly academy.

"And amongst those things deserving of serious, earnest study I know of none to which some portion of time can better be given than to our Ancient Institution.

"To the antiquarian her legends, her dust-dimmed records, her very history will prove a mine of pleasant research.

"To the poet her majestic ritual—lofty thoughts set to musical, well-chosen words—will charm with its spell as doth a mystic chant.

"To the philosopher great ideas will spread before the vision of his thought as he studies the hidden meaning of many a mystery too few care to interpret.

"To the philanthropist our broad charity, working in secret, yet doing its work well, will give new ideas of how to better the human race.

"To the lover of the drama, our great drama, acted in the simplest style, will appeal, as do all tragedies, to the deepest sympathies of the human heart, whilst its lessons of simple faith, of sturdy honesty, and unflinching courage will stir every fibre of the man.

"For the dreamer of dreams, we have visions; for the man of action, we have opportunities; for the wretched, comfort; for the doubter, faith, and above all, to be searched for with all the zeal man can give to effort, we have hope of better things not only in the resurrection of the body but in the new

birth, the assouilment, the salvation, purification, elevation of the human soul.

"But beware, O my brethren, of the mere study of 'words.' Here, as elsewhere, 'the letter killeth.' Study principles, study meaning, study action, and act as you study. Show forth the result of your endeavor not only with your lips, but in your lives.

"Live Masonry. 'Permitte divis caetera.'"

The Masonic Temple Association was assisted by the following:

"1. Resolved That the Grand Lodge of Virginia doth direct the Finance Committee to pay three thousand dollars to the Masonic Temple Association to aid it in paying the interest due by said Association on its bonded debt and to pay pressing bills.

"2. Resolved, That until the next Annual Communication the Finance Committee is authorized to pay a rental to the said Association of five hundred dollars and to forbear to collect the interest that may accrue on the loans of the Grand Lodge to said Association.

"3. Resolved, That for the loans hereby authorized the Masonic Temple Association shall execute to the Treasurer of this Grand Lodge, including the interest as it may accrue, its note or notes, payable on demand.

"4. Resolved, That a committee of three Master Masons be appointed by the Grand Master, charged to consider and further report at the next Annual Communication fully upon all matters connected with the Masonic Temple Association."

The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Virginia hereby reaffirms its adherence to the doctrine of Grand Territorial Jurisdiction—that is to say, a Grand Lodge first organized in a State or Territory has the supreme control over symbolic Masonry, and is the sole judge of what are, or are not, legitimate Masonic organizations within its territorial limits.

"Resolved, That this doctrine has been acquiesced in by every American Grand Lodge, and the experience of a century having proven that it is wise and wholesome doctrine, by which the Grand Lodges have been enabled to dwell together in peace and harmony, the Grand Lodge of Virginia views with regret and alarm the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in the abrogation and setting aside of this doctrine by recognition of dual Grand Lodges in a large number of the jurisdictions of our country.

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Virginia fraternally but most earnestly trusts that the Grand Lodge of Washington will at its next Annual Communication reconsider said action, and thereby promote that peace and harmony which has ever characterized the family of American Grand Lodges."

Bro. J. W. Eggleston presented a capital report on

Correspondence, in which our Proceedings of 1897 find a good place.

Lodges, 261; members, 12,904; increase, 101.

R. T. W. Duke, Jr. (Charlottesville), G.M.

George W. Carrington (Richmond), G.S.

WASHINGTON.

41st Communication, Seattle, June 14, 1898.

Archibald W. Frater, G.M.

They have lost by death three of their Past Grand Masters and their venerable Grand Treasurer. Bro. Benjamin Harned had been Grand Treasurer for the past 31 years.

In his rulings on the liquor question, the Grand Master makes some very delicate distinctions. He decided that the manager of a hotel where liquor is sold was eligible for the degrees, while the foreman and engineer of a brewery was not; and again that the petition of a saloon-keeper who was already a Mason, could be received for affiliation. The moral would seem to be that a manager may be a foreman, but a foreman cannot be a manager.

An imposter named George Fleming was convicted of fraud through the efforts of the Grand Master, and is now in the Penitentiary.

On the Condition of the Craft, the Grand Master says:

"In the lodges of our jurisdiction there is general harmony.

"I regret, however, that I am compelled to report an appreciable falling-off in membership as well as in the amount of annual dues. This furnishes a subject worthy of serious consideration:

"Is it because of closer scrutiny into the character of our material, or a continuation of close times?

"Or is it not on account of our law which provides for dropping of delinquents from the rolls? I want to submit to you, brethren, the question, 'Is this a good law?' I am of the opinion that it is not a good law and ought to be modified or repealed. I believe in the exercise of charity; true Masonic charity, which is long suffering and kind; and I would at least recommend to the lodges, before they allow brethren to be thus dropped from the rolls, to consider if it is not better to remit dues where, by reason of hard times, they have accumulated for several years, than to lose good members; more particularly when dues for the current year can be collected, which I believe could be done in most cases.

"I trust the reports for another year may show an increase and healthy growth."

A lodge by-law compelling a lodge to furnish funeral expenses for a deceased brother was decided to be illegal. A lodge should be only bound to pay these expenses in cases of necessity.

The Committee on Negro Masonry appointed last year presented an elaborate report in favor of the legitimacy of the Negro Lodges. It is, however, only fair to state that their alleged facts are denied and their conclusions termed unsound by other Grand Lodges, who have declared non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington in consequence of this action. The resolutions appended to the report were passed by an almost unanimous vote, and are as follows :

"Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, Masonry is universal; and, without doubt, neither race nor color are among the tests proper to be applied to determine the fitness of a candidate for the degrees of Masonry.

"Resolved, That in view of recognized laws of the Masonic Institution, and of facts of history apparently well authenticated and worthy of full credence, this Grand Lodge does not see its way clear to deny or question the right of its constituent lodges, or of the members thereof, to recognize as brother Masons, negroes who have been initiated in lodges which can trace their origin to Prince Hall Lodge, No. 459, organized under the warrant of our R. W. Brother Thomas Howard, Earl of Effingham, Acting Grand Master, under the authority of H. R. H. Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, etc., Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of F. and A. Masons in England, bearing date September 29, A. L. 5784, or to our R. W. Brother Prince Hall, Master of said lodge; and, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, for the purpose of tracing such origin, the African Grand Lodge, of Boston, organized in 1808—subsequently known as the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the first African Grand Lodge of North America in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organized in 1815, and the Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania may justly be regarded as legitimate Masonic Grand Lodges.

"Resolved, That while this Grand Lodge recognizes no difference between brethren based upon race or color, yet it is not unmindful of the fact that the white and colored races in the United States have in many ways shown a preference to remain in purely social matters, separate and apart. In view of this inclination of the two races—Masonry being pre-eminently a social institution—this Grand Lodge deems it to the best interest of Masonry to declare that if regular Masons of African descent desire to establish, within the State of Washington, lodges confined wholly or chiefly to brethren of their race, and shall establish such lodges strictly in accordance with the landmarks of Masonry, and in accordance with Ma-

sonic law as heretofore interpreted by Masonic tribunals of their own race, and if such lodges shall in due time see fit in like manner to erect a Grand Lodge for the better administration of their affairs, this Grand Lodge having more regard for the good of Masonry than for any mere technicality, will not regard the establishment of such lodges or Grand Lodge as an invasion of its jurisdiction, but as evincing a disposition to conform to its own ideas as to the best interests of the Craft under peculiar circumstances; and will ever extend to our colored brethren its sincere sympathy in every effort to promote the welfare of the Craft or inculcate the pure principles of our art.

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to acknowledge receipt of the communication from Gideon S. Bailey and Con A. Rideout, and forward to them a copy of the printed Proceedings of this Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, as a response to said communication."

The following letter from a brother in Alaska was read by the Grand Secretary. It furnishes a striking proof of the universality of Masonry and of the tenacity with which its good principles are held by our brethren of many lands:

"Lake Bennett, May 24, 1894.

".....I spoke to you of attending the deathbed of E. A. Ireland, of Utah. Well, Ireland was a Mason, and a call was made for Masons to attend the body as far as Lake Linderman. About 175 Masons responded; these decided, after the funeral, to call an 'acquaintance meeting,' at which a large number of Masons attended. This meeting was addressed by Masons, who belonged in the following countries: The United States, England, France, Germany, Canada, Austria, Sweden, Norway, New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Philippines, Canaries, Madagascar, Arabia, Morocco, Egypt, Mexico, South America, Palestine, etc.; in fact, there were Masons from all over the world. Their talk was very interesting to me, and never before did I realize so forcibly the universality of Masonry. As several Masons are buried here, it was decided that each man should bring a post or a board to the burial ground on Monday following, at seven o'clock p.m., when a fence would be erected around the graves. Everyone responded handsomely, and at 11:30 p.m. we had finished the fence and had our photographs taken; and, by the way, there are hundreds of cameras, and Alaskan views will be very plentiful in Seattle by and by."

We regret being compelled to devote no more space to this jurisdiction. The report on Correspondence by Bro. Thomas M. Reed contains many paragraphs we would like to quote. It is one of the best of the year.

Canada for 1897 has a good notice.

Lodges, 99; members, 4,663; decrease, 16.

William H. Upton (Walla Walla), G.M.

Thomas M. Reed (Olympia), G.S.

WEST VIRGINIA.

34th Communication, Wheeling, Nov. 15, 1898.

S. N. Myers, G.M.

Masonry has been making a steady and healthy progress in this State, and four new lodges were formed. The District Deputies submitted full reports, showing a creditable performance of their important duties.

A Lodge of Sorrow was held on the evening of the first day of the session, in memory of their deceased Past Grand Masters, Odell S. Long and Gustav Brown, and Past Grand Chaplain C. J. Trippett.

The following report was adopted:

"The recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master upon the subject of temperance, which was referred to a special committee, if adopted, would be far-reaching, and may be *ex post facto* in its operation. It is impossible, in the short time at the command of your committee, to give the subject presented mature thought and consideration.

"Your committee are, however, of opinion that it is hard for men who live solely by the sale of strong drink to those who are debauched and destroyed by its use, to truly practice the tenets and principles of our noble profession, and we commend to the subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction the exercise of great care and caution in the admission of such persons into Masonic fellowship."

A special committee was appointed to see about the establishment of a Masonic Home, and the sum of \$2,000 was voted as a nucleus of a fund for that purpose.

The Grand Secretary submitted his 13th report on Correspondence. His resume of some of the subjects discussed is excellent:

"There are, with one exception, no new live questions before the fraternity this year. The 'Wisconsin Plan of Relief' for needy and deserving brethren, has fallen by the wayside. The majority of the Grand Lodges, in passing upon the proposition, have concluded that each individual lodge should look after its own needy members; and so that matter, in a measure, rests.

"The Maine proposition of restricting the jurisdiction of a lodge to five years, over rejected candidates, has made some headway among the Grand Lodges. It has always seemed wrong to my mind that when a candidate for the mysteries of

Freemasonry has been rejected by a lodge, that that lodge shall have absolute control of the rejected party forever. There ought to be a time limit, and the Grand Lodge of Maine fixes it at five years, which is a reasonable period. However, many of our Grand Bodies have held to the theory of 'perpetual jurisdiction' so long that they seemingly cannot let go. But I am free to say, it is my judgment, that the Maine proposition will ultimately triumph.

"Non-affiliation is still pretty generally discussed, but not so vigorously as a few years ago. All sorts of methods have been tried by the different Grand Lodges to remedy the existing conditions, and none of them have proved successful. On the whole the discussion is gradually petering out. The Masonic world has about come to the conclusion that if a brother is little and narrow enough to procure a dimit to avoid paying dues to his lodge, that he ought to be allowed to go ahead and do it. One thing is settled, and that is, he is regarded as a Masonic nondescript and merits no consideration at the hands of affiliated members.

"The cipher business has about wiggled itself to death. The Grand Lodges which tolerated it have reaped the whirlwind, and it will very soon be heard of no more forever.

"Mexican Masonry is still a very live factor in the fraternity. It is, however, getting in better shape. The Gran Dieta Symbolica, which knocked at our doors for recognition, has purged itself, we are told, of its most objectionable drawbacks, to wit: making Masons out of women and ignoring 'the Great Light in Masonry;' and if it makes good its pledges, it bids fair to gain recognition by our United States Grand Lodges. It is true that its Grand Orient origin is objectionable, but we have too many precedents in the United States of recognition of such composite bodies, to allow us to turn it down for that reason. It is claimed, however, that a number of Masonic bodies that formerly paid allegiance to it, have withdrawn, and that it is thereby on the decline. Whether this is true or false remains to be seen; as also the fulfillment of its pledges to restore the Holy Bible to its altars, and call in its charters for female lodges. My own judgment is that we should move cautiously in the way of recognition, until we have more satisfactory developments along all these lines."

Lodges, 111; members, 6,251; increase, 263.

Joseph Hall (Wheeling), G.M.

George W. Atkinson (Wheeling), G.S.

WISCONSIN.

54th Communication, Milwaukee, June 14, 1898.

Nathan C. Griffin, G.M.

He reports one new lodge. Harmony prevails and the Craft is in good condition.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

We quote from the report of the Grand Lecturer, Bro. M. L. Youngs :

" During the year the Grand Lecturer has visited the different lodges and held the schools of instruction provided at the last session. In doing so, I have, with but two or three exceptions, followed the program as first arranged. In most the attendance has been fully up to that of former years. The representation of lodges in the vicinity of those where schools have been held has been better than usual. I have also by request, and at their own expense visited a number of lodges not on the list of those designated for the current year. These, added to the number provided by the Grand Lodge, will make over eighty that have availed themselves of instruction. Not only the officers of lodges, but many of their members have been in attendance upon these schools; and none have been more interested or manifested a greater anxiety to rehearse and correct themselves in the lectures adopted by the Grand Lodge and which have been made the standard for its work, than have been those who in each lodge are regarded as authority in the work, and upon whom has devolved the duty of instructing candidates for advancement. They realize the fact that by partial memorizing of the lectures and the indifferent and incorrect manner in which they are too often taught to candidates, they are liable to become so corrupted that in their application to the work not only is superfluous, irrelevant language introduced, thus marring its beauty, but too often materially changing the sentiment intended to be conveyed.

All, too, are more and more appreciating the fact that when in conferring the degrees the ritual is strictly followed, the interest is better maintained than by the addition of anything foreign; that the legitimate work of Masonry possesses for the genuine Mason an attractiveness of which he never tires. At each rendering he finds something new and instructive. Hence the anxiety to be corrected and desire to adhere strictly thereto. Of the prosperity of the different lodges and the amount of work which has been done, I can best refer you to their several reports. While many have added largely to their membership, others have done but little; yet on the whole Masonry in this jurisdiction is having a healthy growth. Our lodges are generally prosperous and our reputation for uniformity in the work is being well maintained."

Bro. Aldro Jenks, P.G.M., presented a very good report on Correspondence. In his review of Montana, he says :

" We are satisfied that there is a great deal in Masonry that has never been committed to writing, and, while it has become the proper thing for modern historians to require contemporaneous documentary evidence for everything which they admit to be authentic, we are of the opinion that they are demanding something of Masonry which the earliest teachings of the Craft strictly forbade. Masons at an early day were much more re-

luctant than they are nowadays to reduce their teachings, practices and beliefs to writing; regarding matters even the most trivial as esoteric. Under such circumstances it is not remarkable that modern historians should find difficulty in securing authentic documentary evidence to support its traditions. The same form of sceptical criticism would entirely destroy the Bible and prove it to be the work of uninspired man at a comparatively recent date. If this is the case regarding such a book as the Bible, how much more difficult would it be to trace the history, and ascertain the belief of a society, every member of which felt impelled by solemn obligations to refrain from putting in print or writing the least word that would in any manner reveal the belief, teachings, legends or traditions of the order. We think that sufficient weight has not been given to these considerations by modern historians."

Lodges, 237; members, 17,226; increase, 280.

James G. Monahan (Darlington), G.M.

John W. Laflin (Milwaukee), G.S.

WYOMING.

24th Communication, Casper, September 14, 1898.

E. P. Rohrbaugh, G.M.

A new lodge was opened at Wheatland. The Grand Master made several official visitations and reports harmony prevailing. He is strongly in favor of the Order of the Eastern Star.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby discountenances and discourages the election of any brother as Worshipful Master until he is able to confer the three degrees of Freemasonry."

Bro. W. L. Kuykendall would like "to use a stuffed club" on the man who named their State. He thinks that their being the last on the alphabetical list frequently curtails their reviews, as the reporters are generally tired out by the time their Proceedings are reached. It must be confessed that there is some foundation for this opinion, and we must try and do better. Wyoming and its excellent Grand Secretary deserve more attention than some much larger jurisdictions. In his review of Colorado, Bro. Kuykendall has the following:

"We welcome another excellent report from the pen of Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf, in which is included a valuable digest of many important decisions rendered in a large number of grand jurisdictions. Wyoming received a handsome notice. He still has hopes that we will get over on his side of the

fence on the question of antiquity, and in commenting on our reply to Bro. Wait in the report of 1896 calls for the production of 'an atom of reliable evidence' that Speculative Masonry was born about 1717. We have at no time volunteered to produce any evidence whatever to that effect; on the contrary have waited with patience for our antiquity brethren to produce any reliable evidence that it really did exist for any great length of time prior to that date. The burden of proof is on those claiming such antiquity. We have, however, expressed our opinion on the subject, and as he challenges all doubters we will present him with a few circumstances in support of our contention. We are justified in believing that he will not deny that the old charges presented by Anderson, in his constitutions, originally had reference solely to operative Masons. That reference seems plain, as the language cannot reasonably be construed any other way. It is therefore evident that Anderson failed to find anything else verging on antiquity and worked them in as the foundation for the government of Speculative Masonry. We have heard no denial of the existence of operative Freemason's guilds or lodges long prior to 1717. It is reasonable to suppose they had a code of laws similar to, if not identical with, said charges. They no doubt had means of recognition unintelligible to others not members. Our brother will surely not claim that anything of that character was part and parcel of our Speculative Masonry. What was the situation in 1717, when the Grand Lodge of England was organized, which, in our opinion, is erroneously termed the revival of Speculative Masonry. To read after Anderson regarding old lodges, old Grand Lodges and Grand Masters, one would justly infer that the country had surely been filled with all three, and yet it appears that only four lodges organized the Grand Lodge. What became of the host of others and their records? Oblivion seems to have swallowed them bodily. We are aware it is claimed that a few other lodges existed at the time of such organization. We also know that in 1737, twenty years thereafter, the number of lodges was exceedingly small. If Anderson had access to old records and Mss, as he claims, it is singular he did not leave some record supported by unimpeachable evidence as to the location of said lodges, when and where at least one meeting of the old Grand Lodge was held and the name of at least one of the long line of Grand Masters who ruled that ancient Grand Lodge should have appeared somewhere in those old records. If such authenticated records ever existed except in imagination it is very singular that he, when entering upon such a great and important undertaking of assisting in the revival of our Speculative Masonry, did not leave some tangible sign of the former existence of lodges, a Grand Lodge and former Grand Masters. It is also peculiar that no records of any lodge or Grand Lodge of Speculative Masonry, as we understand the latter, or writings of any of Anderson's ancient Grand Masters were not secured and preserved by him with great care. He says there

were secretaries in those days. They must have belonged to the honorary class. We know of one society or organization* in this country, not fifty years old, that was started by one man and now numbers its lodges by the thousand and has enrolled in its membership three or four hundred thousand members. We also know another that was transplanted from England to this country about three-quarters of a century ago by one man which numbers its lodges by the thousand and has a membership of one million people. There are likewise others started in the same manner that claim a descent from the earliest dawn of the human race. No one believes such trash. Connecting these cases with Anderson's silence on material points the inference in our opinion is that a short time prior to 1717 a few choice spirits conversant with, if not members of, guilds or lodges of Operative Masons, saw an opportunity of founding a fraternity or institution based thereon and formed a lodge, thus laying the crude foundation for our existing Speculative Masonry. Such would seem to be the case or that certain laws of Operative Masonry were selected by some one or more persons as a basis for our institution and all the rest manufactured to suit. As before stated the burden of proof of antiquity claimed by a few of our brethren is upon them and not upon those holding to the contrary to prove a negative. So far the affirmative evidence has not been produced. Our brother cites the lodge at Warrington and the lodge under the wing of the Mason's company in London. If their evidence was clear that they were purely lodges of Speculative Masonry such as have existed since 1717, which we do not believe, can anyone be assured that the evidence, like the ballot boxes at election in our brother's state, has not been tampered with. There was a time when the story about William Tell was implicitly believed. Circumstances declare it to be a myth without any foundation. In reading the lives of great men of our country who have flourished in one day, also histories of our country, narrating events occurring during the same time, we have found many things in both which, within our personal knowledge, had no foundation in fact, also many things have been misrepresented and some entirely perverted. All this shows how uncertain and unreliable the evidence is that our brother has to seek to make his contentions good, and this is a reminder that we have never heard him express an opinion or positive knowledge as to the date when our Speculative Masonry sprang into existence, also as to the dates when the first lodge and Grand Lodge were organized, and who was our first Most Worshipful Grand Master. We hope he does not belong to the class who claim that Adam was our first Grand Master and Solomon the second, for there is an awful break between them which may be accounted for, however, by claiming that there was another revival in Solomon's time which made him number two; or to the class that claims our organization was in existence when the stars first sang together, for science knocks the latter into oblivion and our

brother will be kept busy to establish the Solomon revival and that of 1717. No, my brother, we are all agreed that our Grand Institution is the oldest charitable organization in existence. Extreme antiquity does not add one mite to its character, principles or usefulness; on the contrary, a claim to that effect without any tangible evidence to warrant it places us in a ridiculous position with seekers after truth. It is whether we, as an organization, are living up to the tenets of our profession and doing our share in ameliorating the condition of the human race, and not our antiquity, that counts with our fellow-men."

Lodges, 16; members, 985; decrease, 26.

J. M. Rumsey, Jr. (Rawlins), G.M.

William L. Kuykendall (Saratoga), G.S.

LIST OF PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Alabama	1898	New Hampshire	1898
Arizona	1898	New Jersey	1899
Arkansas	1898	New Mexico	1898
British Columbia...	1898	New South Wales ..	1898
California	1898	New York	1898
Colorado	1898	New Zealand	1898
Connecticut	1899	North Carolina	1899
Delaware	1898	North Dakota	1898
District of Columbia..	1898	Nova Scotia	1898
England....	—	Ohio	1898
Florida	1899	Oklahoma	1898
Georgia	1898	Oregon	1898
Idaho....	1898	Pennsylvania	1898
Illinois	1898	Prince Edward Isl'd.	1898
Indiana	1898	Quebec	1899
Indian Territory	1898	Rhode Island	1898
Iowa	1898	Scotland	1899
Kansas	1899	South Australia	1897
Kentucky	1898	South Carolina	1898
Louisiana	1899	South Dakota	1898
Maine	1898	Tasmania	1898
Manitoba	1898	Tennessee	1899
Maryland	1898	Texas	1898
Massachusetts	1898	Utah	1899
Michigan	1899	Vermont	1898
Minnesota	1899	Victoria	1898
Mississippi	1898	Virginia	1898
Missouri	1898	Washington	1898
Montana	1898	Wisconsin	1898
Nebraska	1898	West Virginia	1898
Nevada	1898	Wyoming	1898
New Brunswick	1898		

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON, Chairman.

Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, June 14th, 1899.





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